

THE GATEWAY

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PAUL SWANSON

ROCK LIKE NO ONE'S WATCHING (Left) Emily Haines from the band Metric whips her hair to the beat of the music. (Right) George Pettit from the group Alexisonfire belts out the low notes for all to hear. (Centre) fans attend the first annual Sonic Boom music festival Saturday, September 5 at Northlands. The festival featured groups such as Franz Ferdinand, Girl Talk, Billy Talent, USS, and the Wet Secrets.

Science Students' Association dismantled nine months after succeeding UASUS

JONATHAN TAVES
Deputy News Editor

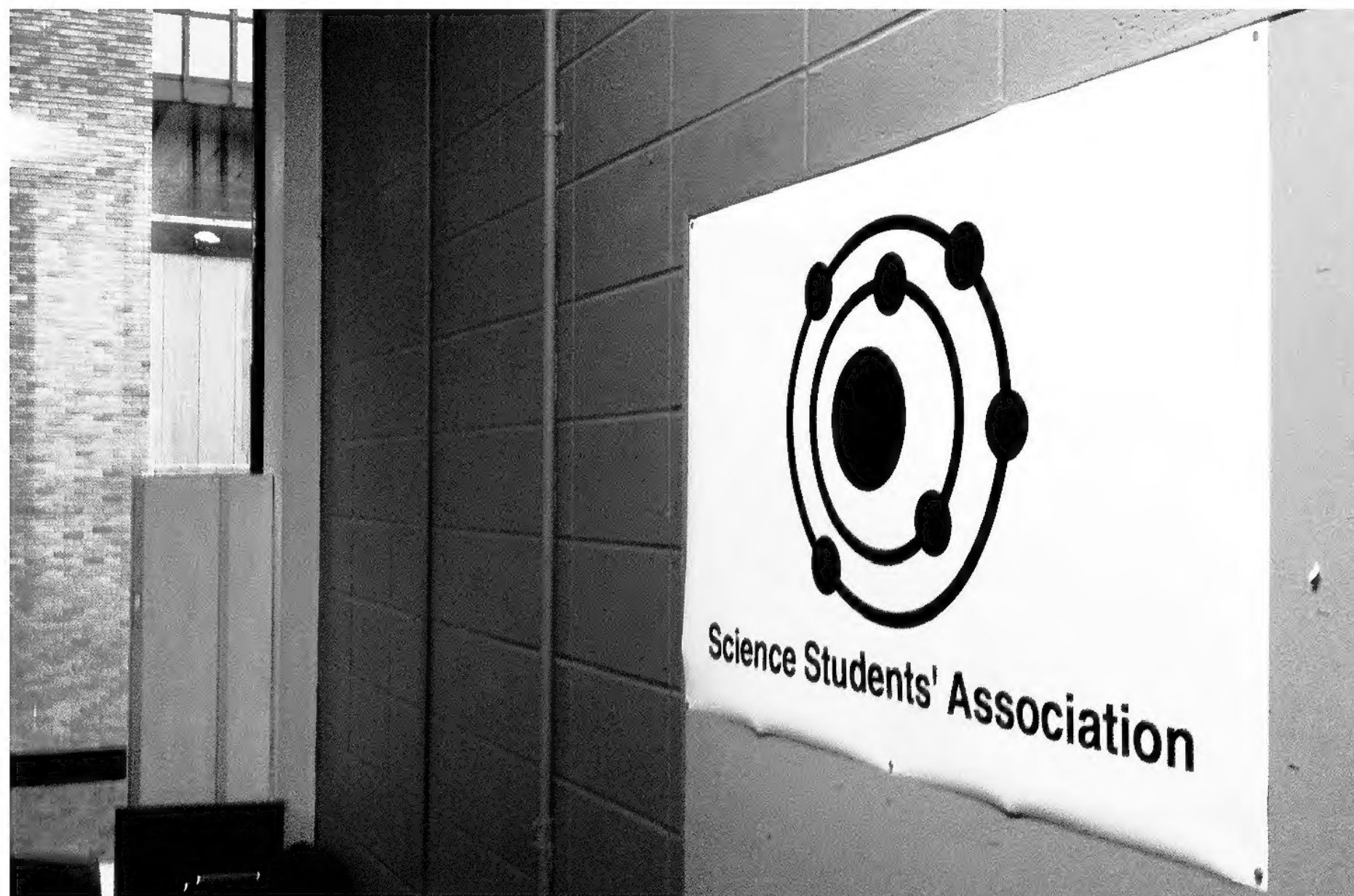
The University of Alberta's Science students are once again without a faculty association following the derecognition of the Science Students' Association (SSA) on September 1.

The decision follows a short tenure for the SSA, which took over from the failed University of Alberta Science Undergraduate Society (UASUS) in December 2008.

SU Vice President (Academic) Leah Trueblood explained she made the ruling in consultation with Student Group Services and the Dean of Science when it became clear that the SSA was not meeting its conditions of probation.

"When a faculty association is governed under conditions of probation, and those conditions are not met, there are consequences. The [SSA] was clearly and repeatedly in violation of the conditions of probation. From my perspective that was the only option that I had," Trueblood explained. "I feel the organization is no longer functional, and I feel it is incumbent on the Students' Union to step in."

The SSA was under probationary status after it took over from UASUS last winter. Many science students were displeased with the lack of communication and effectiveness from UASUS.



LUCAS WAGNER

BREAKING BONDS In the wake of the SSA's dissolution, the Students' Union will fulfill its mandate.

However, conditions set up for SSA to remedy these concerns were not met.

"They failed to report bi-weekly on their activities [...] They were obligated to ask the Students' Union in advance for purchases that

they were making [but didn't]," Trueblood said.

"They were in violation of their own constitution. Their structure was not working."

PLEASE SEE SSA ♦ PAGE 3

Students begin modifying 2010 FSAE racecar

SEAN STEELS
Senior News Editor

For engineering students plugging away at their degrees in lecture halls and classrooms, the excitement of a real world application for their knowledge might seem distant, but for those involved with the University of Alberta's FSAE racing team, a little bit of speed finds its way into every day.

At the event, held annually in California in mid-June, engineering students from across the world pit self-designed Formula One-style, high-performance prototype cars against one another. In the 2009 event, U of A placed 11th internationally, up from 15th the previous year.

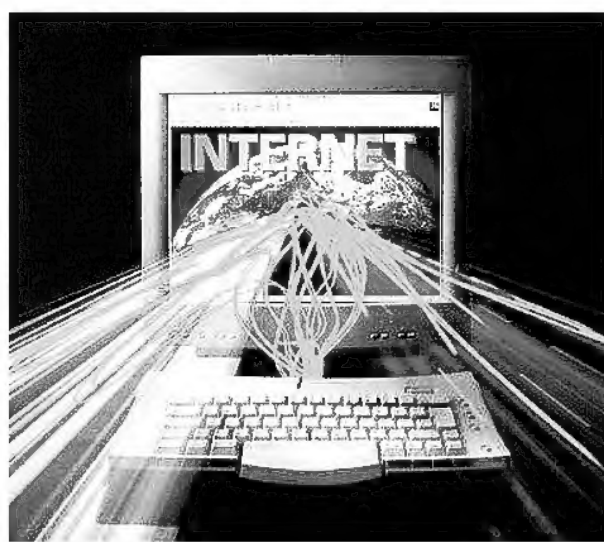
"This isn't something you really ever find in any street vehicle," explained Josh Dyck, a fifth-year engineering student and member of the roughly 15-student team that took the car to California last summer.

"The open cockpit combined with the low weight and high power-to-weight ratio, I don't know how to describe it — a feeling unlike anything else."

PLEASE SEE FSAE ♦ PAGE 2

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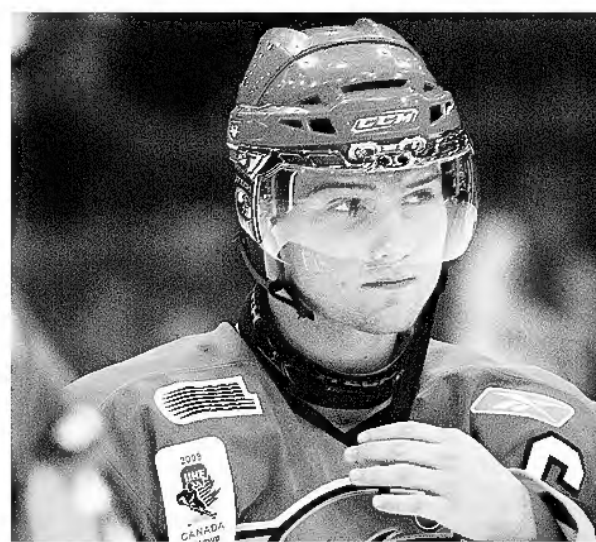
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Online junkies

Ever wonder what the most time-wasting sites on all the Internet are? Wonder no more.

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Frontline rookies

For the first time in the program's history, Bears hockey will face off with the Vancouver Canucks rookies

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Rush Hour and Arctic Shipwreck.

contributors

Catherine Scott, Matt Schoettle, Aaron Yean, Ian Phillipchuk, Demmi Connolly, Stephen Cook, James Leask, Alexis Hillier, Evan Mudryk, Ross Vincent, Beth Storheim, Antony Ta, Aasron Yeo, Alice Dolphin, Tim Schneider, Cody Civiero, Sam Brooks, Paul Swanson, Dan McKechnie

Students upgrade car with high-tech materials

U of A students took 11th at the 2009 international competition and hope to move up the ranks next year

FSAE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But speed isn't the competition's deciding factor (although the U of A's car tops out at an impressive 160 km/h). Engineering students face a host of challenges in the competition from fuel efficiency and endurance tests, to acceleration and skidpad tests, to design evaluation.

Such trials have exacting effects on the car and the team. Preparation for the event is a year-long affair and begins almost at once after the competition closes. The U of A's car is in its third year of improvement on the same design. Final plans for the upcoming shift in suspension should be complete by the end of September.

"We spend a lot of time rule reading, and where we aren't constrained [by competition regulations] and what we can change up," Dyck explained. "One thing we're doing with the 2010 car is a shift in suspension to better package the driver. As a side goal of that, there are a lot of heavy beams to protect the driver which we'll be shortening, hopefully to afford us a couple of pounds here and there," he said, pointing to the thin aluminum frame stretching around the car's open cockpit.

Parts for such high-performance vehicles don't come cheap. The team has measured the car taking 1.7 lateral Gs — the unit representing approximation of gravitational force. With an acceleration of 0–100 km/h in 3.9 seconds and a power-to-weight ratio of approximately 325 horsepower per ton (one-fifth that of a Formula One race car,) extra parts make up the vast majority of the car's \$9,000 price tag. The U of A's team vehicle was the least expensive at the competition.

"Carbon fiber body panels, carbon fiber seatwork, aluminum rims, aluminum hubs and fender, aluminum engine block [...] The bearings are donated, which end up being a



DAN MCKECHNIE

NEED SOME SPEED? Made of carbon fiber and light-weight aluminum, the FSAE car has a top speed of 160 km/h.

big expense too," said project leader Daniel Vaandrager.

And in the world of high-speed racing, heavy wear wreaks havoc on parts, necessitating their replacement.

testing period is breaking period. You take the car out and find out what's going to break and break it so that it doesn't happen at competition."

But even with international

"The open cockpit combined with the low weight and high power-to-weight ratio, I don't know how to describe it — a feeling unlike anything else."

JOSH DYCK

FSAE TEAM PROJECT MEMBER

No time is more trying than the testing period, when cars are pushed to their limits to see what will give.

"Testing before competition is major," Dyck said. "It's kind of a half-way serious joke around here that

opponents competing for first place, the tension of burning rubber and an itchy right foot, a spirit of educational sportsmanship still permeates the event.

"It's competitive, but it's also very

community-based," Vaandrager said about the stresses of going to California. "We all know how much work it takes. If somebody's struggling, to give you an example, if anyone has a missing part at competition, you can announce it on the P.A. and usually within five minutes the parts will be on their way from another school."

But while a collegial atmosphere is welcoming, first prize seems to be what keeps students coming back for more.

"Once it's on track, though, the competition is pretty close," Vaandrager said. "It's not wheel to wheel; it's timed, but you're vying for all you can get," Vaandrager said.

Recruitment for the U of A's FSAE team will occur September 16 at 5 p.m. in the Atco Design Lab.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Sean Steels and Pete Yee



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Mohammed Ibrahim
PhD in Chemistry

As you may be aware, the H1N1 virus still has pandemic status.

What would you like the University to do to prevent its spread?

I think they're basically doing everything. They've let people know. [So you're in favour of public awareness?] If people are going to get it, they're going to get it either way.

Stem Cell research, umm, controversial stem cell research. It has to be controversial or there's no point.

I'm not to sure actually. I haven't really thought about it. It doesn't really concern me as much as it should. [You're not afraid of the big bad swine flu?] Accidents happen and if it does ... [You'll probably survive?] I wouldn't bank on it, but these things get played up in the media.

I'm not sure about what the University can do for this. Yeah, they can provide us with stronger anti-viral agents and awareness programs.

CORRECTIONS

• In the September 3 issue of the Gateway, the article "Presidents encourage student engagement in annual addresses" incorrectly stated that Orientation came to a close on Wednesday night.

The presidents' addresses and the close of Orientation in fact took place on Tuesday night.

• In the August 27 pull-out feature, "Gateway Circus Campus Cavalcade,"

page 11 incorrectly listed admission prices for some varsity athletic events. Correct prices are as follows:

Conference games \$14 for adults, \$9 for students/seniors, \$5 for U of A students; Playoffs \$16 for adults, \$11 for students/seniors, \$5 for U of A students; Soccer \$10 for adults, \$5 for students/seniors, \$5 for U of A students.

The Gateway regrets the errors.

Don't get caught in traffic when getting the latest campus news.

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thegatewayonline.ca**

Administration watching H1N1 situation as school year begins

CATHERINE SCOTT
News Staff

Though the new school term has campus buzzing with the novelty of new classes and books, the H1N1 flu strain, which has now become a global pandemic, is still a presence with which to be reckoned.

On April 23, 2009, H1N1 showed up on the radar of the World Health Organization. The virus hit home shortly after, as eight Albertan deaths have been associated with it since May.

The University of Alberta is preparing as much as possible for a potential health crisis this fall by staying alert to the recommendations of the federal and provincial governments and digging out their contingency plans.

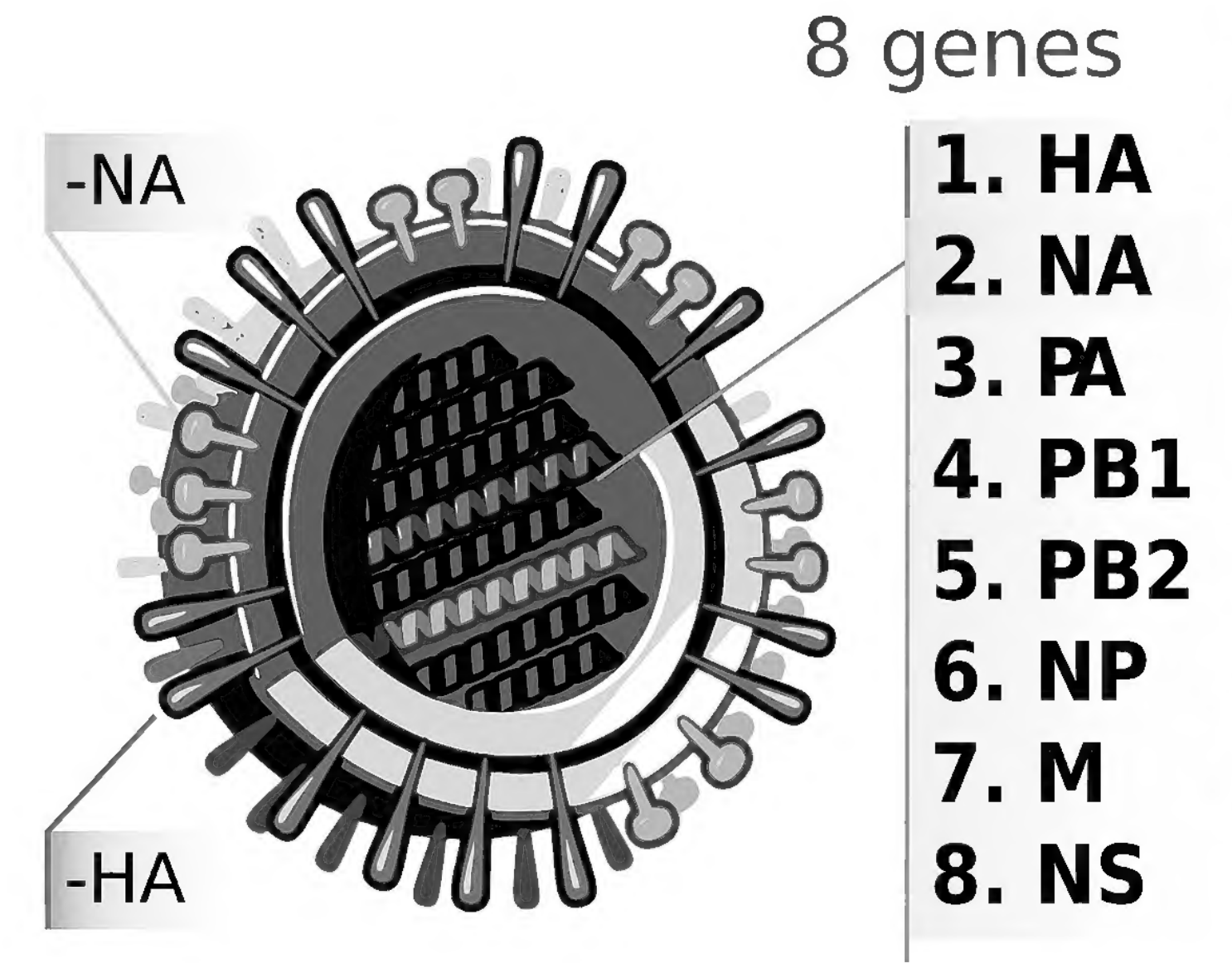
Laird Burton, manager of the Office of Emergency Management for the U of A, said we should expect the regular flu season on top of H1N1 to affect the population at the University, but the institute will not be taking any drastic measures.

“We wouldn’t be taking any extraordinary action; there is no blanket look at closures, and that’s what’s been recommended by the government. If it mutates, then we have to reconsider [our plans],” Burton noted, adding that once classes and activities on campus are cancelled, it’s more difficult to communicate important information to people.

Nick Dehod, SU Vice President (Student Life), echoed this sentiment, adding that even though campus activities will continue as planned, this health issue could dampen the fun.

“We’ve got a lot of things planned for students this year, and if H1N1 became serious, that would affect students showing up for events or getting involved in groups,” he said.

The University relies on figures provided by Alberta Health and Wellness and the Public Health Agency of Canada, who are estimating that during any given week this flu season, there could be up to eight per cent of the University’s population infected. According to Burton, government sources have predicted the worst case scenario overall, with 30 per cent of the Canadian population expected to



A CLOSER LOOK The NA gene of the H1N1 virus molecule is responsible for initiating host infection, while the HA gene docks at foreign cell receptors.

contract the virus. Of course, these figures come with a stipulation. “That’s what they’ve talked about for this H1N1. If it doesn’t mutate, if it doesn’t do anything, that’s likely the whole extent of it,” Burton said.

“You can wind up making things worse if your plans are too rigid and you don’t pay attention to what the disease is actually doing.”

LAIRD BURTON
MANAGER, U OF A OFFICE OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

“That number includes everybody from when it started in April right through to whenever it ends. Of course, we don’t know exactly when it will end. That’s the rough calculation.”

However, at this point, it’s just as likely that the virus could take a turn for the better.

“It’s very hard to predict. We’re

very careful not to over-plan,” Burton said. “You can wind up making things worse if your plans are too rigid and you don’t pay attention to what the disease is actually doing.”

Dehod noted that the SU has been keeping themselves informed on what the University’s lines of action are, but ultimately, both Dehod and Burton agree that it comes down to individual responsibility and care, pointing to an information website provided by the U of A that is frequently updated: www.h1n1.ualberta.ca.

“The most important thing is that students know that there is this resource, this website available to them if they have questions,” Dehod noted.

Even more importantly, according to Burton, is that people maintain their personal hygiene, because hand-washing is the number one defence against any virus. He also urges students to be vigilant since this virus is particularly unpredictable, but not to panic.

“Stay in touch. Watch the website. We’re just keeping our fingers crossed and hoping that everybody has a really great year,” Burton said.

SU seeking department, student input

SSA ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“The [SSA] executive was in a very challenging position coming in in the middle of the year, and working against years and years of an absence of student government,” she added.

Two members of the SSA’s executive, Vice President (Internal) Dustin Chelen and Vice President (Communications) Misha Miazga-Rodriguez, recommended that the association be derecognized in a letter to Trueblood on September 1, citing these failures.

“Derecognition of the SSA was an unfortunate but necessary action. We felt that internal deficiencies and improper infrastructure led to the SSA failing to meet the conditions of its probation,” the two said in a statement. “We are truly sorry and clearly aware that the SSA did not meet [Science undergraduate] expectations [...] We strongly encourage Science students to actively participate in the creative process of building a new Faculty Association.”

SSA President Alena Manera resigned her post prior to the

derecognition announcement on September 4.

“I think inexperience really hurt us,” Manera said.

She added that she had made her resignation intentions known during the summer due to time commitments and personal concerns.

Manera explained that she believes the structure of the organization was functional, but it takes a high level of dedication to make it work properly.

“It’s governance. It’s not like setting up a Superman comic book club,” she said.

Trueblood also recognizes those unique challenges.

“A faculty association is a perfect storm of responsibility and a lack of resources,” Trueblood noted.

“The challenges facing the SSA were so great, and the functionality was so low, that they as responsible individuals felt that the only thing we could do would be to stop moving backwards, and start moving forward in a good direction.”

The SU will take over the duties of the SSA until a viable option for a

faculty association is agreed upon by all parties.

“I will be looking to folks that are already elected by Science students to lead this dialogue, to advise me through this process,” Trueblood explained, adding that an advisory committee will be established to find a creative solution.

“Direction is more important than speed. We need to figure out what’s going to work in the long term, and make sure this never happens again.”

Trueblood expressed her hope that consultation with effective departmental groups already established within the Faculty of Science can ease the process.

“We have a lot of really extraordinary students that are concentrated in well-done departmental associations. Students identify with those I think — not always, but often. That’s terrific. I think we need to make sure that any new structure is playing to the strengths of those departmental associations, and playing to the strengths of Science students,” she said.

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News Meetings Fridays at 3 p.m. SUB 3-04
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Students' Council & General Faculties Council By-Election

NOMINATION PACKAGES NOW AVAILABLE

We are now accepting nominations for the Students’ Union by-election to be held in several faculties on September 24 and 25. Positions available are listed below.

ARTS	2 General Faculties Councillor Seats
BUSINESS	2 General Faculties Councillor Seats
EDUCATION	2 Students' Union Councillor Seats 3 General Faculties Councillor Seats
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NURSING	1 Students' Union Councillor Seat 2 General Faculties Councillor Seats
OPEN STUDIES	1 Students' Union Councillor Seat
PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION	1 General Faculties Councillor Seat
FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN	1 Students' Union Councillor Seat 1 General Faculties Councillor Seat
SCIENCE	3 General Faculties Councillor Seats

Nomination Packages are available from 2-900 SUB, 3-02K SUB, or online at www.su.ualberta.ca/vote. Nominations are due on September 14 at 5:00pm.



< www.su.ualberta.ca/vote >

Debate over grizzly population control strategies divides activists

ANTONY TA
News Staff

Results of a pending study by the Government of Alberta on grizzly bear populations could decide whether or not a 2006 hunting ban of the animals will be lifted.

A number of recent attacks by grizzly bears on humans and animals have some Albertans supporting such a move. Conservationists are concerned about whether the species can withstand the brunt of a sanctioned hunt, since grizzly bears already suffer from many forms of human-related mortality.

"The DNA information's been available for over a month, but the government has just been sitting on it trying to figure out how to spin it," explained Mark Boyce, a biology professor at the University of Alberta. "I can't share

[the numbers in the last DNA census] until the government decides to."

Though hunting of grizzly bears is currently illegal in Alberta and all national parks, it's legal in British Columbia, where grizzly populations are much higher. According to Boyce, the results from the delayed report indicate that gene flow across the continental divide between B.C. and Alberta is high, and some grizzlies even spend time in both provinces.

Boyce quantified the chances of grizzly bear extinction in Alberta as "virtually nil."

James Pissot is the director of Canadian programs for the conservation group Defenders of Wildlife, and he refuted gene flow as a marker of a population's viability.

"Remember that genetic interchange and shared gene pools does not necessarily mean that we're looking at

a healthy population [in Alberta]," he said.

The Alberta Fish & Game Association (AFGA) has been supporting reinstatement of the grizzly bear hunts, which were put on hiatus in 2006 by provincial regulation.

"Public education has been going on for years, but we haven't seen a decrease in human-caused mortality in bears. Hunting is the best solution and it isn't being used," said Quentin Bochar, AFGA President.

"When you put the fear of a larger predator into a smaller predator, they don't get overconfident and come into populated areas. If you kill a wolf, there's probably another wolf around somewhere that saw the activity and that wolf will teach it onto future generations. Same thing with grizzly bears," he said.

Despite sharing in the AFGA's belief that a hunt could be sustained, Boyce does not agree that a hunt would be effective.

"From a biological standpoint there's no reason why we couldn't have a hunt," Boyce said. "However, some people argue that a hunt will reduce the chances of conflict with humans. I don't think there's evidence that this is true."

This opinion was seconded by Darcy Whiteside, a spokesman for Alberta Sustainable Resources Development.

"We support hunting; it's an excellent wildlife management tool," Whiteside explained. "But there are no scientific papers that would support the idea that a hunt would keep territorial animals such as grizzly bears away."

Pissot dismissed the idea of hunting being an effective tool altogether.

"A herd animal learns to avoid things



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

TARGET ACQUIRED? Hunters may soon be allowed to resume the pursuit of Alberta's Grizzly bears pending the results of a recent government study.

that are frightening and they learn it as a group," he said. "But that behavior does not translate into individualistic animals, like grizzly bears."

Boyce attributes the grizzly's population perils to mismanagement of food wastes by humans, and on an increasing industrial presence such as roads and highways.

As an alternative to hunting, Boyce supports waste management for reducing the risk of future human-bear conflicts.

"It's more about managing bear foods and managing roads," said Boyce. "It's not as though reopening the hunt will fix the human-bear conflicts."

Pissot blamed the Government of

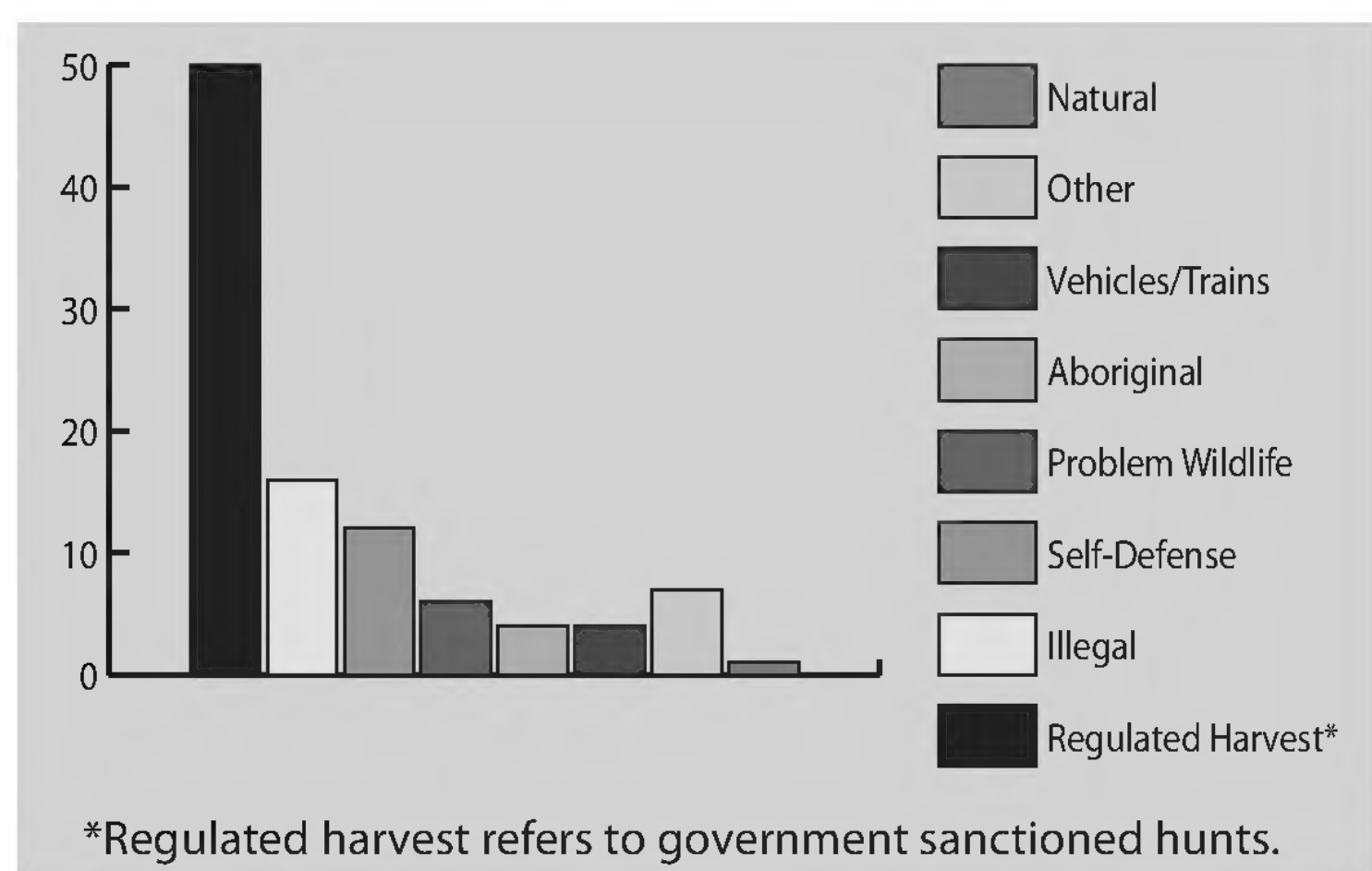
Alberta for road mismanagement in grizzly bear country.

"I think you can lay the responsibility squarely on the Minister of Sustainable Resource Development," he said. "There are few places on provincial land where grizzly bears can just be grizzly bears without a constant and serious threat from people."

Whiteside references the Alberta "Bearsmart" protocol as a potential solution.

"What we try to promote through Bearsmart is reducing the risks of human-bear interactions. We try to prevent bears from becoming habituated," he explained. "In a human-bear interaction, the bear always loses."

GRIZZLY BEAR MORTALITY CAUSES



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Experts say agricultural subsidies hurt competitiveness of industry

MATT SCHOETTLE
News Staff

Alberta's agricultural and livestock sectors have been plagued for decades by inefficiencies in the production process, leaving them uncompetitive in the global marketplace says a new treatise by the University of Alberta's Western Centre for Economic Research (WCER).

Published this August, the report highlights four key areas: industry competitiveness, research and development, trade access and enhancement, as well as structural reform, of which regaining an internationally competitive status remained the most salient objective.

Joe Rosario, the report's author and senior economist at WCER, believes that reforming said areas begins with participation from the federal government and farmers — for example, the creation of incentives for farmers to produce more by ending subsidized farming.

"Canada has been providing income support, or subsidies, to farmers on a very large scale when compared to other countries. When you provide subsidies, you take away the incentive to lower your costs of production to enhance your market activities — this makes Alberta less competitive," he said.

Although he admits the idea is controversial, Rosario points out that agriculture is a sensitive topic, and one the federal government has to address.

"Agriculture is a very politically and socially sensitive area. Thus, people have been reluctant to bring agriculture into the liberalization of trade," Rosario explained.

"In the case of Canada, we should be one of the foremost leaders in trying to bring about the liberalization of trade. We are one of the main exporters of agricultural commodities and we could become even bigger. But, for a variety of reasons, the federal government has not sought out open

markets, but instead protects what we have. That for me is a large concern."

Yet removing subsidies to allow for more liberal trade is not the only factor affecting Canadian agricultural and livestock production. Increased research and development would also increase industry competitiveness. Rosario compares U.S. corn production to Canadian barley as evidence.

"Barley yields have remained more or less stable, whereas corn yields have shot up very considerably," he explained, adding that this also affects Alberta's livestock industry.

"Barley is Alberta's main feed ingredient. That means that the U.S. has a cheaper source of feed grains and animal feed because of better R and D."

But there is still much work to be done. Helmut Mach, director of WCER, echoed another of Rosario's assertions: namely that value-added production within the manufacturing sector can improve the competitiveness of Alberta's agricultural and livestock industries.

"Primary commodities are declining

while manufactured high-valued products are increasing in importance. We have to go along with what is happening in world commerce and manufacture our primary agricultural products. It's not only essential to the growth of our industry, but equally essential to provide the most stable returns to the agricultural producers," Rosario explained.

"We need to increase the international competitiveness of Alberta: Value-added production can help with that," Mach said.

It's in this arena of international competition where Rosario believes Canada belongs.

"The way that world trade in agriculture is going, Canada has many opportunities. We can become a bigger player and add a lot of value to our industry by adopting certain policies," he said. "There are some things we cannot control, like exchange rates. So you have to become more and more competitive. You have to cut back costs, improve marketing, R and D, and government policy. That is the principal point."



ECONOMY NOW Joe Rosario is a senior economist at the U of A's WCER.

CAMPUS DIGEST

Compiled by Sean Steels

U OF A PROFS ACCEPTED TO ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

This November, five University of Alberta professors will have the honour of being inducted into the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) as full fellows thanks to outstanding contributions to their fields of study.

The inductees are Leonard Ratzlaff with the Department of Music; Robert Wilson and Francis Pelletier, both from the Department of Philosophy; Jillian Buriak from the Department of Chemistry; and Liz Ingram, a professor and printmaker with the Department of Art and Design.

The RSC is also known as the Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada and is the country's oldest association of scientists and scholars.

Election to its ranks is the highest academic achievement available to scholars of the arts, sciences, and social sciences in the country.

BERKELEY PROF TO LECTURE ON DIVINE SUFFERING

Campus will receive a visit on Wednesday from Robert Philip

Goldman, professor with the University of California, Berkeley's Department of South and Southeast Asian Studies. Goldman will give a lecture on the suffering of the supreme Indian divinity.

Goldman, renowned for his work on ancient Sanskrit, will attempt to acquaint his audience with the rare trope of the suffering deity, and all the complications such an existence entails.

The lecture, presented by the Department of History and Classics, will occur Wednesday, September 9 at 3:30 p.m. in Henry Marshall Tory 2-58.

MOUNT ROYAL JOINS ALBERTA'S UNIVERSITIES

Mount Royal College has officially announced that it will become Alberta's sixth university and Calgary's second. The University, according to its mandate, will remain a teaching-focused institution despite the "university" designation.

Lieutenant Governor Norman L. Kwong, who attended at Mount Royal himself, was present at the opening ceremony on September 3 and received the University's first honorary Bachelor of Arts Degree. Premier Ed Stelmach and Minister of Advanced Education Doug Horner were also on hand.

The move has also prompted worry from some, after the Alberta government announced that postsecondary funding amounts in the province will remain static.

ONLINE WORKSHOP TO REDUCE SUFFERING IN ELDERLY, DEMENTED

University of Alberta professor Cary Brown in the Department of Occupational Therapy has developed a new web-based online tool that will help those with advanced dementia and the subsequent pain problems associated with the disease to communicate their suffering to caretakers.

A whole host of degenerative conditions such as arthritis, fractures, muscular contractures, and mouth ulcers are well-known for going undetected in those that are elderly and have dementia because of the communication issues often associated with the disease.

Using the online workshop and tool-kit, caretakers and patients will be able to work together to identify and remedy physical discomforts, improving the quality of life of those with dementia.

GSA BY-ELECTION NOMINATION BEGINS

The Graduate Students' Association will hold by-elections to select a Vice President (Operations & Services) and five councillor-at-large positions.

The Operations & Services position primarily oversees the financial operations of the GSA and student services. Nominations for all positions open at noon on September 8 at 1-37 Triffo Hall and will run until October 2. Votes will be collected from October 3-9.



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A&E Tuesdays at 4 p.m.

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Photo Fridays at 4 p.m.

THE GATEWAY:
BETTER THAN A VAN FULL
OF CANDY SINCE 1910

Lister Centre reduces environmental impact with bedbug-detecting dog

Facility cuts costs, chemical use by selective detection and spraying strategy

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE
 CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

EDMONTON (CUP) — Students at the University of Alberta's Lister Centre can sleep well this semester thanks to Sheba, a specially trained dog used to inspect for bed bugs.

Sheba works with the pest control company Ecopest Inc., which recently inspected the Centre and the Grant MacEwan student residence.

Amin Poonja, owner of Ecopest Inc., purchased the trained lab-collie cross from a trainer in Florida. Poonja is a professional biologist who wanted to create a company that specializes in environmentally friendly pest control.

"It's a pest control company, but the focus is to find environmentally sound solutions, so caring for your health and the environment [...] We always try to optimize control and minimize environmental contamination," Poonja said about his company.

He emphasized the difference between his company's methods and those of other pest control companies when treating for bed bugs.

"Lots of pest control companies spray just hoping that they'll get the bugs, but our process is really different. We do an inspection to find out where the problem is, and then we use appropriate controls," Poonja described. Before Sheba came along, it wasn't always easy to locate the bugs, as they can often hide in small cracks or crevices.

Sheba, however, is able to detect almost every one of the microscopic pests.

"With the combination of a good technician and Sheba we can get almost 100 per cent identification of where the problem is. Once we've



SUPPLIED

SLEEP TIGHT Sheba's near-perfect detection means the bedbugs won't bite.

identified the problem we can then target our treatments," said Poonja.

This new treatment system was put into practice at the University of Alberta before the fall semester began. Maurice Anderson, Facility Services Manager at the Lister Centre, described the many benefits from the University's perspective.

"This year we had the dog go through every room and our cost was down [...] by \$6,000, and the chemical use was 8 per cent of what we'd done in the past," Anderson stated.

Sheba is also more reliable than chemical treatments.

"Once we bring the dog into a place and we inspect an area, we know it's clear. We have controlled it now to the point where there's no fear of a massive outbreak," said Anderson.

However, Anderson also stressed the importance of communication with students with regards to bug problems.

"For alerting us to insect problems, we rely on the students to report it immediately, rather than ignore it," Anderson said. "The sooner we get any indication of a bug problem, the sooner we can deal with it."

The benefits are vast from a student perspective as well. They can be sure that there is no bed bug problem when they move in and they're not exposed to toxic chemicals on a large scale.

"We are reducing toxic chemicals. We are not exposing students to chemicals, and we're not having to interfere with their lifestyle all that much," Anderson stated.

Anderson said he felt very positively about the process and the results.

"This is a positive move for the University. I think you're going to see this go a lot further in other institutions. It's really a great way to go," he said.

Smaller Canadian universities seek fair share in research funding discussion

JACOB SEREBRIN
 CUP Quebec Bureau Chief

MONTREAL (CUP) — According to university leaders and student lobbyists, giving more money to elite research schools isn't the answer to Canada's postsecondary funding problems.

The presidents of five of Canada's top universities spent the summer calling for a greater share of research funding. Currently these five — the universities of Alberta, British Columbia, Montreal, McGill, and Toronto, — receive just over 30 per cent of the over \$2.5 billion given out annually by the federal government for university research.

Amit Chakma, President of the University of Western Ontario, a school that has received hundreds of millions in federal research funds, said he doesn't think much of the call to give a bigger share to a select group.

"You create an environment and let creative people come up with creative ideas," he said. "Excellence can reside almost anywhere."

Chakma said instead that the "chronic underfunding" of Canadian universities needs to be examined and fixed.

Arati Sharma, national director for the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, said that while the lobby

group has not taken a stance on the call for more research funding to go to the "big five," she's glad that the debate has started, but wishes students were a part of it.

"This debate is lacking the student voice. It's institutions that are debating what the national strategy looks like," she said. "The national strategy is not only about research funding and targeting institutions based on their merits or anything like that. The debate really needs to be much more holistic than just the institutions."

"You create an environment and let creative people come up with creative ideas. Excellence can reside almost anywhere."

AMIT CHAKMA
 PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF
 WESTERN ONTARIO

Megan Nicholson, chair of the National Graduate Caucus of the Canadian Federation of Students, takes a stronger stance on the issue.

"Grad students are rejecting this call to segregate teaching and research

universities, and we feel that this approach really is fundamentally flawed," she said. "What we should be doing is opening more doors to researchers and not closing them to anyone who lives outside of Vancouver, Calgary, Montreal, and Toronto."

"If university presidents want to see more innovation, there should be a collective push by all university presidents and not just a small segment of the top-five sort of 'elite' Canadian universities," said Nicholson.

"Collectively, we should be pushing for more investment in public research."

Concordia University president Judith Woodsworth, whose school receives millions in federal research funding annually, also takes issue with the call.

"What happens in the classroom and the research lab can no longer be artificially separated. For any university to be dynamic, there has to be a creative flow between innovative teaching and the research that continually expands the boundaries of the particular discipline," she said in a written statement.

"So, should we be looking at re-dividing the research pie among 'elites' and 'the others'? Instead of fighting over the crumbs, perhaps we need to bake a larger pie so that our universities thrive across this country."

York students plot disease growth with math, monsters

Model tracks the results of a zombie outbreak, and evaluates strategies to contain and treat a rapidly-growing condition

DANIELLE WEBB
CUP Ontario Bureau Chief

TORONTO (CUP) — When Carleton University graduate student Philip Munz and classmates Ioan Hudea and Joe Imad had to come up with a paper topic to model the spread of an infectious disease, the idea of a global outbreak of zombies seemed too good to pass up.

"I like zombies almost as much as I like math," Munz said.

"[Munz] had the original idea after doing math homework while the TV in the background happened to be playing a zombie movie," said Robert Smith, the professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Ottawa who assigned the project.

"I think they thought I'd shoot their idea down, but I loved it from the get-go."

The paper demanded that students use mathematical models to present how a disease might be contained and treated within a given population. Zombies, who are typically highly infectious, deadly, and potentially world-ending, presented the perfect analysis point, which even came with some applications to the real world.

"We do briefly mention diseases with a dormant infection at the end. I was thinking of something like herpes, where you're infected for life, but the virus mostly lives in the spine. The outbreaks of herpes infection could be akin to the dead coming back to life," says Smith, who co-authored a later version of the paper with the students for publication.

"In fact, I borrowed the phrase 'hit hard and hit often' from the HIV literature, because that's precisely what you need to do there," Munz said.

"This paper is a good example [...] of the versatility and fun that people can have with math."

The paper offered three models for fighting off a zombie invasion: quarantine the zombies, cure the zombies to return them to their human form, or terminate them.

While spending the term researching zombies might be any student's dream, Smith is quick to clarify that there is a real-world application of the cure model.

"In the world of [viruses] and cells, an infected cell treated with drugs could return to a healthy cell," he said.

But it's the biology behind this idea that matters.

"What we learn from this isn't 'we'll apply our zombie model to malaria,' but rather, the process. Take unfamiliar biology — in this case, the dead coming back to life — understand what the key factors are, create a model, analyze it, compare it with the biology, refine it, then introduce potential interventions in order to see which ones are likely to work," Smith explained.

This is the exact process used on new diseases such as swine flu, he says. Unfortunately for the undead, killing the zombies in vast numbers was the only effective way the team found to save humanity from total collapse — something most disease researchers would do their best to avoid in the real world.

The paper will appear this fall in a book called "Infectious Disease Modeling Research Progress," but that's well after media around the world have had their bite of the story.

News outlets in Canada, Italy, Korea, the U.K., the U.S., and even the Czech Republic have latched onto the story, vaulting Munz and his colleagues into the international spotlight for their work.

As with all widely popular stories, however, the cynics weren't far behind. But despite critiques from zombie-literature fans ready to poke holes in the theories, or libertarians expressing



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

THINGS TO COME The hypothetical spread of the undead could follow the pattern of a flu outbreak.

their discomfort with a government-funded research project on zombies, the complaints were mercifully few.

"The major negative comments are from people desperately worried that we wasted

taxpayer money on this. Because, you know, the University was quite happy to fund us to go collect zombie specimens and to travel to exotic locations to observe zombies in the wild," Smith joked.

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Teenager's plan not exactly ship-shape

LAST WEEK MUST HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY rough for 13-year-old Laura Dekker. Not only did the past seven days usher in the return of classes for students in the Netherlands, but to make matters worse, a Dutch district court is now trying to prevent her from becoming the youngest person to sail solo around the world. I'm not sure what the Dutch equivalent of "FML" is, but it's probably safe to assume that it's been peppered around the Dekker household lately.

Child care authorities in Dekker's hometown of Utrecht have placed the youngster in state custody for the next two months in order to perform a psychiatric evaluation on the girl and properly assess her state of mind before allowing her to venture onto the high seas. While her father has thrown his full support behind his daughter's lust for adventure, her mother recently expressed her lack of enthusiasm, citing the obvious dangers that accompany any individual on a solo sailing mission.

If memory serves me correctly, being a 13-year-old was oftentimes marred with poor decision-making, fuelled by both a lack of proper judgment and a whimsical sense of immaturity. Why else would I have participated in desk-chair races around dangerous equipment in shop class while blasting Limp Bizkit's *Significant Other* in my Discman?

Truth is, we've all made some regrettable choices in our early adolescence. It's simply because, at that point in our human development, cognitive behaviour isn't fully developed enough to allow for proper assessment of certain situations, and sometimes, 13-year-olds just make choices that are neither rational nor smart. Unfortunately for Laura Dekker, she needs to understand that the same science applies to her as well.

For all we know, Dekker could be the most technically gifted sailor in the world — according to her mother, the issue isn't whether or not she has the technical capability, because she can "sail like the devil." But that's *completely* missing the point; her nautical prowess and ability to sail alone in familiar areas will not provide invincibility from the many complications that can arise from a voyage of this magnitude outside of her comfort zone.

Sailing requires great physical strength in order to enact certain key safety measures. In the triennial Volvo Ocean Race, for example, crews of nearly 10 people are required to participate in a life raft operation and survival technique course prior to setting out. Should rough weather or large waves factor into the picture, Dekker's boat would face the very real possibility of flipping or, worse, capsizing — two situations that are next to impossible to survive. Judging from the press photos I've seen of the young girl, her small, lanky frame doesn't seem like it would allow her to summon the strength of 10 well-trained individuals to handle an emergency at sea.

Even more disconcerting is the mental anguish that can arise, even in adults, from long periods of time in isolation. Because sailing around the world takes upwards of 300 days to complete and involves very little communication with life back on land, Dekker would become more susceptible to cabin fever — which, in turn, can create a range of negative effects, anywhere from being completely restless to oversleeping. For someone so young and fragile to be willing to push the limits of her mental capacity is not even the slightest bit admirable, but rather, completely idiotic and unnecessary.

Furthermore, the way in which Dekker is currently handling the resistance further exacerbates her case and proves just how unprepared she really is. According to her mother, because of the stance she's taken against her daughter, Dekker has threatened to permanently cut ties with her if she hampers any prospective plans. This sort of childish reaction is reminiscent of an immature, rebellious teen who threatens to run away from home on account of being grounded, and seems more befitting of someone who should be playing with toy sailboats instead.

NICK FROST
Managing Editor



KELSEY TANASIUK

from THE web

It's the cycle of life, and it moves us all

Re: *Cycling commuters to get boost from city budget changes* (September 3)

Louis Francescutti says "the potential always exists for the most serious of injuries when small vehicles collide with big vehicles. So bicycles and cars just don't mix."

I appreciate his perspective, but of course they *do* mix, every day, in Edmonton, and in cities all over the world. I'm a year-round full-time bike commuter and haven't driven a car since before the '90s. I get along with drivers every day.

Bicycles and cars will have to mix, unless they can come up with an entirely separate systems with overpasses instead of intersections. We all need to relax a little on the roads, drive/ride safe, and share. Edmonton drivers are terrific in my experience, and I thank them every day.

JIMMY GSTER
Via Internet

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

The real question is why anyone would put actors and doctors together

To the editor:

This is written on behalf of the neglected students housed in the Old Education Building (E. A. Corbett Hall) which, believe it or not, is a part of the U of A campus. This building houses three faculties — Nursing, Rehabilitation Medicine and Drama — which involve a fair number of students, who are part of the University, who all pay their student's fees and who all feel they are eligible to receive the same services as students on the main part of the campus. For example, access to the 'Gateway' (I've heard it called).

It is a rare occasion when the Gateway finds its way to our building. If a few copies do turn up they are usually two days to a week old. Without a Gateway how are we able to keep up on campus activities and offer our support to student affairs? A case in point are the present Student Council elections.

Exactly three nominees found the strength to make their way

across campus to put posters in our building. As a result, we discovered elections were taking place but as to who was running for the offices, we are completely in the dark. Where do we vote? Should we trek across campus to support these elections when no one takes the time to trek across to us and let us know what's going on?

I feel this situation should be examined and corrected. A university advocating student support, loyalty and participation should perhaps take a good look at just what kind of an effort they are making to deserve this support.

MAJORIE ROBSON
11 March, 1966

Abort! ABORT!

A gun? A coat hanger? Or a nuclear weapon? What's the difference? They all obliterate human lives.

Why not make retroactive abortions available to "pro-choicers"? It would give them another alternative in avoiding an unwanted life.

BILL DAHMER
25 October, 1983

Letters from the Archives is an increasingly regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters

that we feel are of particular significance. Also when there aren't many regular letters, which: come on, folks. I refuse to believe that we're the only ones who have opinions about happenings on campus. Someone get upset about something already! Yeesh.

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via paper aeroplane or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca. Website comments are also considerable for reprinting, as long as the capitalization isn't too offensive to our sensibilities.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication. To that end, it would be great if website comments, while not necessarily having all your personal information, at least identified you by your proper name, as printing aliases make us all look very, very silly.

Furthermore, e-mails featuring excessive amounts of exclamation marks, all-caps, large font sizes, and emoticons, are liable to be ridiculed mercilessly by the editorial staff.

Trapped in the tangles of the [Inter]web

The writers of *Gateway Opinion* track down the rootinest, tootinest, time-wastingest addictive sites from across the blogosphere so you don't have to



OPINION
STAFF

Group
Commentary

As long as there have been humans and there have been deadlines, there has been procrastination. In the age of the Internet, it's easier than ever to lose yourself to a virtual click of the wrist, and with a flash, you've wasted another significant portion of your life.

In an attempt to caution fellow students, we've compiled a collection of our favourite time-wasting websites and sounds across the Intertubes. And we're not talking some garden-variety Facebook profile stalking or chuckling at the latest antics of various cute cats; we're talking the hardcore, addictive pages of a thousand links and no exit in sight.

So if it takes you four hours to read this article because you keep clicking on these links, remember: we tried to warn you.

Beth Storheim
YouTube.com

What's the most distracting website on the entire Internet, and has comment sections more entertaining than the videos themselves? You know what I'm talking about: YouTube! The upload-it-yourself video site that's become a cornerstone of our culture.

Why worry about the pileup of garbage in your kitchen or all that silly paperwork at the office when you can watch videos that cover every subject imaginable? You can see the Battle of Kruger, find episodes of your favorite TV shows, or even watch something legal like old public domain films. That's right, you can have a film studies class right in your bedroom! Believe me, you'll have more success doing that than trying to find hardcore porn on YouTube. That stuff gets flagged and banned faster than you can say "Omaha," so forget about it.

Still, YouTube has a video selection broader than the ocean and twice as vapid. Well, mostly. Ever since Warner Music Group had a hissy fit over copyright issues, YouTube has allowed copyright holders to flag anything that contains unauthorized content of their own. This means big-name studios and companies are happy, and lowly YouTube fan-vid makers are pissed. There's even been calls to boycott WMG, with predictably mixed success.

Yet despite all the copyright brouhaha, YouTube is still the largest and most popular video-hosting site for a reason — I'm finding every reason to be gone, but it's so addictive! In fact, I'm done with this writing bullshit. Time for me to watch some more Lon Chaney films.

Antony Ta
The Oilernet

This one's probably a regional distinction as opposed to a worldwide controversy, but I personally lose all track of all time when I'm on reading one of the major Edmonton Oilers fan blogs — whether it's OilersNation, Lowetide, or the Copper and Blue, it's difficult to keep me off the ice for any length of time.

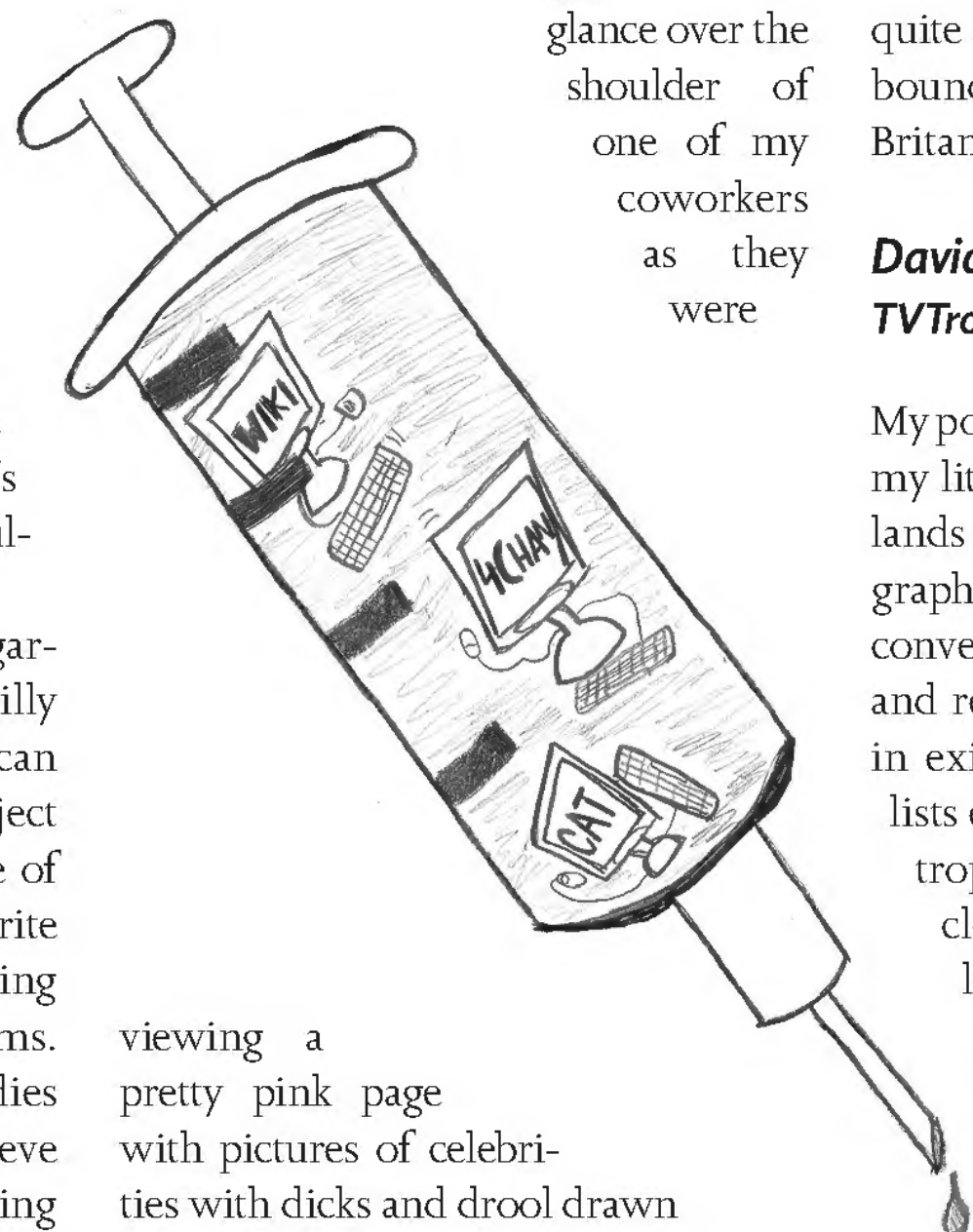
Since I usually don't check the websites for a few periods at a time, when I finally get around to it, I do

my best to find out what the score is. Inevitably it's a losing battle, one that usually lasts a couple hours and goes well into overtime, with me poring over pages as the clock runs down, scanning facts and figures and trade reports until the wee hours of the morning. I get my hockey fix in the summer from these websites especially. In the winter it's easier because there's actually hockey going on, and I can rest easy, knowing that I don't need to create my own Oiler drama.

Sarah Stead
PerezHilton.com

For every paper I've ever written in an overnight frenzy — while at the same time reading the book said paper was to be written on — I blame perezhilton.com. My addiction to this website began in 2006 when I was working part time at a job with minimal supervision, frequent slow bouts, and an unrestricted Internet-capable computer. My boss at this job had given me her blessing to do my homework or check my emails when there weren't any customers in the store or other work to be done, so I often did. One afternoon, I

happened to glance over the shoulder of one of my coworkers as they were



viewing a pretty pink page with pictures of celebrities with dicks and drool drawn all over their faces, and snotty commentary below each photo.

As an English major, it was exactly the kind of website I should have ignored — that everyone should ignore, really. Hilton's catty celebrity gossip and sloppily done MS Paint additions to photos are on par with the bitchy things teenage girls do to each other's yearbook photos when they're angry. But over the ten minutes I sat there laughing with my coworker, I fell in love with Perez. Soon, checking that website became a daily occurrence for me, and a more-than-welcome break from Keats, Joyce, and Wilde. Lately, Hilton has become so prolific in his updates that I find myself visiting his site several times a day, or whenever I need a brief lowbrow break from the impenetrable texts of the Ivory Tower.

Aaron Yeo
Wikipedia.org

Ah, Wikipedia, the hero and arch-nemesis of every university student. I know what you're thinking: "It's not wasting time if it's educational, right?" But how many times have you gone off on a three-hour Wikipedia tangent, ending up on a page about asbestos poisoning, only to find you still haven't finished the first paragraph of your essay on Ernest Hemingway? At least now you know how exactly your lung tissue is going to fall apart when you take a holiday in the 1970s.

That's good to know.

The massive encyclopedia is arguably the most educational source of information that students willingly study for no clear reason. Never before has there been so much random interest in the history of Holy Roman Empire, or how chickens and roosters do the dirty deed. Hell, never before has it even been possible to find such a detailed article on the game of Spoons.

One of the best improvements of Wikipedia over conventional stacks of books is its speed, allowing the public to know exactly when their favourite (and least-favourite) celebrities kick the bucket. This happens with such accuracy and promptness that some say you can find out how they die *before* it actually happens. Police have yet to investigate rumors that Wikipedia itself is killing people for publicity, but Jeff Goldblum and Abe Vigoda remain in a state of constant alertness, just to be safe.

The kicker, though, is that given how anyone and everyone can edit articles and potentially butcher them to shit, it's really quite amazing how such a resource has grown to what it is today. Remember, though, nothing quite says class better than 32 leather-bound volumes of the Encyclopedia Britannica on your mahogany shelves.

David Johnston
TVTropes.org

My pop-culture addiction collides with my literary holier-than-thou-etry, and lands me squarely in the target demographic of this wiki collection of every convention, recognizable gimmick, and repeated offense of odd behavior in existence. The site categorizes and lists examples of the most recognized tropes in TV, in case that wasn't clear by the title. But since it hits literature, comics, movies, theme parks, poetry, and hundreds more, you would've thought by now I'd have learned something. Alas, there is no site more packed full of entirely useless yet perfectly organized information.

The navigation of the site is its inevitable downfall of time-wasting. The designers have made it so damn easy to slip from one ten-page article to another, with links and funny article titles and soothing fonts coming together in a seductively multi-linked fun-storm. Soon you've found your way from *You Can't Fight Fate to Ontological Inertia* to *In Spite of a Nail to Richard Nixon: The Used Car Salesman* — see what I mean? The titles are intriguing and vaguely intelligent and, damnit, seven hours have gone by. TVTropes, you take more than just my sanity at this point.

And, of course, every time you happen upon a trope, there's the desire to run through the Examples section to see how many of the references you personally know and recognize. I can't think of a more meticulous site for my fellow high-browed muttering fanboys and girls to speak in ten-dollar words about topics they believe are hundreds of times more important than they probably are.

Accordingly, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* tropes are in high attendance.

Lucas Wagner
thegatewayonline.ca

16 months of my fucking life down the tubes.

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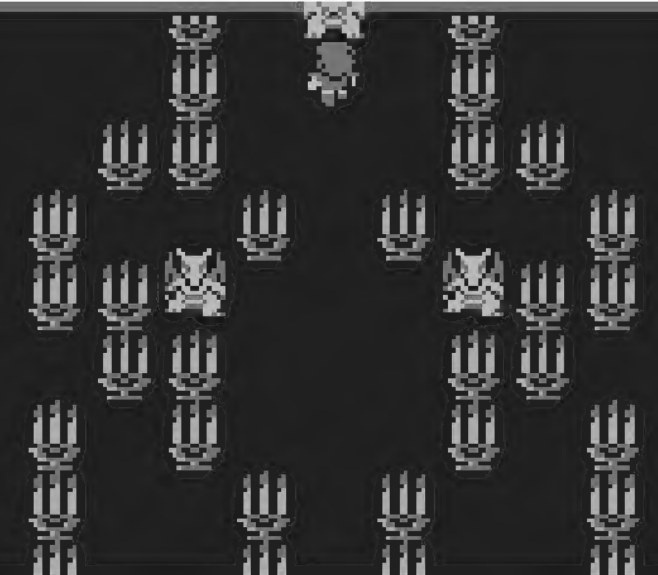
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Why a detached rodent appendage is so impressive to Bahamut, we'll never know. But in exchange for delivery of the item, the *Final Fantasy* dragon will evolve your heroic Warriors of Light into their advanced forms. Meaning the mages become wizards, the fighters become knights and the little 8-bit sprites become significantly more badass.

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Experiencing cellular desperation



ALICE DOLPHIN

Over the summer I found myself in a rather awkward situation: in the front seat of a Jeep, begging the universe to please not let me die a virgin. Oh, get your mind out of the gutter, people. It was my cousin's Jeep — she was driving, and the root cause of my rather clichéd plea was what she was doing while behind the wheel. I mean, I knew she wasn't a star driver, but had I known she was going to do *that*, I would have opted for the sweaty bus instead.

Of course, the horrible unnamed "*that*" to which I refer isn't Meat Loaf's sole exception to the things he'd do for love, but rather, texting. Texting while driving! Fine, so it hardly sounds as dramatic as driving after one too many drinks tonight, but let's not mince words: texting or talking on your phone while driving is an amoeba-brained, drooling-vegetable, instant-gratification-over-common-sense idea. By definition, it takes your eyes off the road and your hands off the steering wheel. Funny, I thought you needed eyes and hands to drive. Oh wait — you do.

So not using them might result in finding yourself in a somewhat

unpleasant situation involving horribly charred flesh, blood slowly pooling on pavement and massive loss of life. And how many of you would enjoy a scenario like that? No takers? Yet despite the fact that the majority of you might not be too keen on facing your own mortality, most of you will still continue to stick to the mentality of using your cell phone to text or talk while driving.

By definition, texting while driving takes your eyes off the road and your hands off the steering wheel. Funny, I thought you needed eyes and hands to drive. Oh wait — you do.

It's a mentality that Strathcona County aims to stop with their recent ban of hand-held cell phone use while driving. Drivers caught operating their cell phones will be fined \$100; for those oh-so-clever repeat offenders, the fine is raised to \$200.

Now, they're so far the only community in Alberta to put a ban in effect. Well, I may seem naïve, but I'm crossing my fingers and plucking four-leaf clovers in hopes that those folks at the government will get their butts in gear and pass a

blanket text-ban for all of Alberta, as they are currently considering.

Naturally, some of you may angrily swear, roll your eyes, and snarl, "Oh, it won't make a difference because I'm still going to use my cell phone while driving if I want to." Hey, good plan there, Texty McRebelpants, but indulge me for a second and ask yourself this question: why do you need to text anyhow?

What is so life-threateningly important on that little screen that you're willfully diverting your attention off of the potentially flammable metal objects whizzing past you? Oh, did your pookie text you to tell what they're thinking about you? Well your pookie can wait — if she really loves you, she'll be happy to ensure your safety, despite your assertions that you're perfectly safe.

In fact David Strayer, a psychology professor from Utah, says that 98 per cent of us are unable to safely multitask while driving. A recent survey by the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute backs him up by concluding that drivers who text are 23 times more likely to smash into another vehicle.

So put away your phone while driving, folks. Then when you hear about some asshole killing a sweet little girl all because they replied to the text "Wats up brah?", you can in clear conscience shake your head and murmur "What a loser," because you're no longer one of those sad text-driven people.

It's time for question-and-cancer period



TIM SCHNEIDER

"As a society, we can claim that people just didn't know any better back then, but it seems that kind of sense of superiority is unwarranted, especially in an age when grapefruits have been linked to cancer from time to time."

This past week, CNN.com ran an article discussing the development of technologies that can wirelessly power consumer and other appliances, primarily using manipulation of electromagnetic fields. My first thought at reading this article was of course related to how cool it would be to have a futuristic electromagnetic-field-telephone, or possibly a wireless waffle iron I could use in the shower. This changed when I read this sentence, tacked quietly and innocuously onto the end: "there may be health risks associated with the magnetic fields." Of course there will be health risks with such technology. But I, like most people, disregard the potential health risks of technologies like these on a daily basis because they make our lives on this planet so wonderful and happy and — well, cancerous.

You know what I'm talking about. In our society, we collectively tend to have a couple of persistent beliefs: we can rely on science and technology, using it to make our lives better, and we know endlessly more than the previous generations that held these exact same beliefs. To this end we keep creating more and more elaborate ways to give ourselves cancer.

For an example of what I'm talking about here, let's take a stroll down memory lane. In the early 20th century, cigarettes were all

the rage for style and trend. Then it was discovered that they caused cancer. How about asbestos insulation? It was touted as a revolutionary lining to keep us toasty warm in our houses, and then we discovered it caused cancer. Cell phones, fried foods, caffeine — there have been more cancer scares than I can count in recent memory, and the number's only going up. As a society, we can claim that people just didn't know better back then, but it seems that kind of sense of superiority is unwarranted, especially in an age when grapefruits have been linked to cancer from time to time. How is that making us superior to anyone?

This is all compounded by the fact that we as consumers rely on the companies that profit from the products we buy to let us know if these products are harmful to our health. I'm sure they'd love to let us know that but, well, it just wouldn't be as profitable for those companies if everything we used had "will most likely cause your premature death" labels all over it. Of course, that hasn't hurt cigarette sales, so anything's possible, clearly.

The current hot topic appears to be tanning beds, as the International Agency for Research on Cancer has recently labeled exposure to sun beds for artificial tanning as "carcinogenic to humans." At this point, it might be easier to simply label things that are non-carcinogenic to humans, since

there don't seem to be too many of those left. I'm hoping my shower-waffle iron is on this shortlist, but I'm fearing the worst.

Meanwhile, one of the most popular humanitarian causes is to donate to cancer research. I suppose that makes sense, but it seems that we're just so desperate to continue using the latest technologies that we're much happier to ignore the obvious side effects associated therein. Perhaps if everyone really wants to prevent cancer, we should use a little more common sense in our day-to-day lives rather than throwing money at the problem after the fact.

With a track record like this, you can see why perhaps we should be a little more cautious before we run out to buy wireless electrical devices for everything in our homes. We as a society have repeatedly disregarded potential health risks and, when regarding technology, continually leave unsaid unspoken for the sake of convenience or happiness in our day-to-day lives.

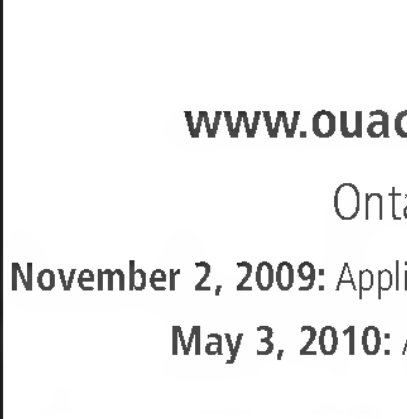
I know it's hard to pull your eyes off of the future when we just might have wireless electricity, but give it a shot and think about what you use in your life a little more carefully. It just might save your life. Of course, maybe *not* using wireless electricity devices will become a primary cause of cancer. Someone really should look into that.

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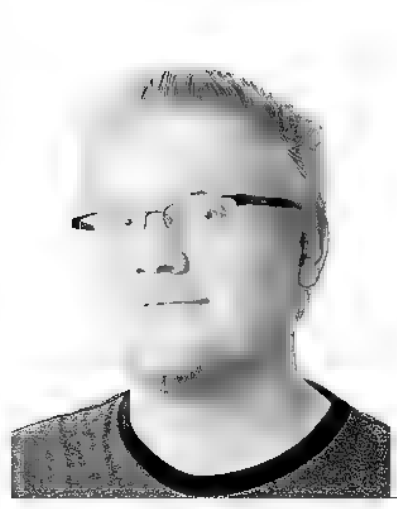
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City cyclists: get it in gear



MIKE
KENDRICK

In a city that's bursting at the seams with urban sprawl, featuring such attractions as our drive-thru shopping mall in South Common, bike commuters are constantly finding themselves treated like second-rate citizens on Edmonton's roads.

By now, it's old hat for cyclists and drivers to trade jabs in the tired debate of who owns the road, and as a commuter who frequently uses both my bike and my car to get to where I need to be, I've heard both sides of the argument come up with some pretty outrageous claims. In a recent article by *Edmonton Sun* columnist Kerry Diotte, he all but placed total responsibility on Edmonton cyclists for every bike-related traffic accident in the city.

Understandably, there was plenty of backlash from the city's bike commuters — I'm sure I'm not the only one to bear witness to the faults of Edmonton's many oblivious motorists on an almost daily basis. But as the city moves ever closer towards supporting a cyclist-friendly civic plan, I can't help but notice that it's not always the double-wide 4x4s that are hindering the progress towards a fully shared road.

When I first moved to Edmonton from small-town Fort Saskatchewan, I'll admit that I wasn't the most well-versed on the city's traffic bylaws. It took me a few weeks to realize that

I was supposed to be riding on the road at all times, and even longer to figure out that yes, I was in fact subject to *all* the same laws and regulations as a motor vehicle while on my two-wheeled speed machine. After plenty of trips through the busiest of rush hours and several angry honks and gestures from motorists (regardless of whether or not I was at fault), I now feel as though I'm well-versed enough to survive as an Edmonton cyclist in a courteous and cooperative manner.

But the more I watch other cyclists around the city weaving between pedestrians on Whyte Avenue's side-walks, blatantly ignoring red lights, or just acting as though they can switch at whim between the rights — no, the *conveniences* — of foot and motor traffic, the more I realize that they're just as much at fault for the hostilities from city drivers. It often only takes one bad experience with a person for whom someone already has a prejudice towards to solidify their animosity, and by openly choosing to ignore the same traffic laws they're expecting motorists to follow, aggressive cyclists are only reinforcing the beliefs of such haters like Diotte.

It's only getting worse in the back-to-school rush as the countless number of Edmonton's never-to-be-completed construction projects choke up the roads. We're a long way away from the city's promised \$17 million towards increasing commuter options showing any real benefits, so in the mean time, cyclists, don't compound the roads' problems by thinking you're exempt from the rules. By trying to fight back with spite, you're only fuelling the engines of motor-driven anger towards us.

Media needs to keep soldiering on



CODY
CIVIERO

On August 14, U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Joshua Bernard was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade in Afghanistan, causing extensive leg wounds. He would later die on the operating table, but not before an embedded Associated Press photographer took several pictures of the mortally injured soldier on the battlefield. In spite of requests by Bernard's family and Defense Secretary Robert Gates to withhold them, the AP decided to release the images, which were published in 20 American newspapers last Friday, raising a host of questions over privacy and media ethics.

The family's wishes are completely understandable, for reasons that should be self-evident. Their moral authority on the matter is difficult to question and their perspectives should be taken into account before further upsetting them without cause. There is cause for reverence, but the wider social implications necessitate that such pictures are made public. The only real shock here should be that photos like them are so uncommon in the western media today. In eight years of combat in Afghanistan and Iraq, hardly any graphic depictions of death or injury have circulated in the mainstream Canadian

or American press, regardless of whether the casualties involved are coalition forces, insurgents, or civilians.

The use of embedded reporters is already a contentious ethical issue amongst the media. While it enables journalists access to areas they normally wouldn't be safe covering, it also allows the military control over what is shown. The setting is already prone to manipulation, and to further suppress the harshest authenticities involved to willfully blind citizens.

It's important to remember to recognize that these raw pictures aren't any kind of attack on soldiers and their families. They aren't acts of disrespect and they don't weaken the dignity of fallen troops.

The difference between a news article describing what transpired and a photograph depicting it doesn't change the facts behind the incident — but it does change the emotional impact. It separates people like Bernard from statistics in a broader analysis on war, and puts a human perspective on the cost and sacrifice involved therein. This viewpoint is absolutely necessary to put wars in context, regardless of your political views, and we can't have an open and honest discussion about war without an acute

awareness of the grimy realities surrounding it.

For good or ill, the pictures are more honest than the pristine press photos of clean-cut soldiers in immaculately pressed uniforms that usually circulate every time after they are killed in action. It's important to recognize that these raw pictures aren't any kind of attack on soldiers or their families. They aren't acts of disrespect and they don't weaken the dignity of fallen troops. On the contrary, for those of us who care about soldiers, they are the only way to properly convey the real sacrifices of the armed forces. And refusing to demonstrate or acknowledge the extent to which they work and suffer actually undermines their efforts.

This much I know: on the record, if I die in any socially significant context, plaster pictures wherever. Because discussion shouldn't be stifled, truths shouldn't be hidden, and photos don't change how someone lived or died. Of course, I'm not in a social context where, again for good or ill, my death would be a nationwide front page story.

News outlets not only have a right to enlighten the public on what transpires in war overseas — they have a social obligation to do so. This might make people uncomfortable, but reality is rarely comforting. Whitewashing the blood behind the headlines and keeping the population ignorant and detached won't serve citizens or soldiers, only aiding those with power who don't want to be held accountable. As a society, we'd all be poorer for it.

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Die Mannequin's Failure dishes on staying optimistic

musicpreview

Die Mannequin

With Marilyn Manson
Friday, September 11 at 8 p.m.
Shaw Conference Centre
(9797 Jasper Ave)
\$55.50 at ticketmaster.ca

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor

If absence makes the heart grow fonder, then Caroline Kawa's parents may be at least partially responsible for her band Die Mannequin's success. Kawa, who now prefers the punk rock moniker "Care Failure" found out exactly how strong her love for music was when she was 12 and it was almost entirely taken away.

"One of my close friends, she had attempted suicide," Failure reveals. "She had wrote a note to me, so the police pulled me in, and then they proceeded to ban me from music — taking away my CDs, poetry, posters, band shirts, anything that had to do with it."

Failure says that her only relief from her music-less world was the radio, which she listened to constantly, meeting her future musical idols — Sonic Youth, Dinosaur Jr., and Nirvana — one by one. She eventually left home at 16 years old to, in her own words, "protect her family from herself."

"I couldn't live with that for too long. It was a ticking time bomb," she says.

True to punk-rock form, Failure punctuates many of her sentences with the occasional "y'know?" or string of curse words. But for a young musician who has already endured several deeply painful family hardships, bouts of homelessness, and stints in rehab, her disposition



is eerily upbeat when I catch up with her from Toronto via a crackly cellphone.

"I knew inside that [leaving home] needed to happen for many reasons. I have a younger brother and an older sister and it was really hard and I probably put them through a lot of pain," Failure says, before adding, "[but] me and my family are as close as ever now."

The swift and severe reaction from the police and Failure's family after her friend's suicide attempt was exacerbated by the fact that the Columbine massacre had just occurred in Littleton, Colorado, and anxious parents everywhere were all looking for a scapegoat. In addition to the massacres creating a moral panic about violent content in video games, music — most prominently Marilyn Manson's music — was also implicated in the tragedy.

"Parents, and police, and people were

blaming youth behavior on music, and not on bad parenting and neglect," says Failure, echoing many of the same sentiments Manson himself expressed after the shooting.

A decade later, the irony that Die Mannequin is opening for the shock-rockers who was indirectly responsible for her music ban is not lost on Failure, who says that Manson "warms her heart."

"We just added another guitarist and a new drummer [to the band], so we're banging out songs all day and we're excited about the tour for sure. The Anti-Christ tour will be amazing and I can't believe that Marilyn was behind picking the bands. It's really cool to know that he could tour with whoever the fuck he wants and that he wants to tour with Die Mannequin."

The tour comes at a great time for

the band, who are preparing to release their new album on September 8, entitled *Fino + Bleed*, along with a Gemini Award-nominated documentary of the band made by Canadian film legend Bruce McDonald. But as Failure explains, producing the album was a bit of a nightmare after her laptop, full of ideas for the new record, went missing after a show right before she was due to begin working on the new album.

"All of the songs I sang, I would write lyrics in the morning and sing them at night, because you can only sing for like six or seven hours straight when you're screaming and belting out things. [...] It's a concept record, like "Fino plus Bleed," real life mixed with some exaggerations and things I was thinking at the time, [...]like just wanting and wishing and hoping that all of the tortured lobotomy patients and electric shock treatment

patients could all turn on their doctors and try to hold them hostage and so we tried to do that [with the music], but from the holding them hostage point, it's kind of like realizing a fantasy," Failure elaborates.

"I really do watch too much History Channel [...] I'm one of those people who gets off on that shit," she laughs.

Her voice is weathered for a woman of only 22 years, partially from the cigarettes she always seems to have her lips around, and perhaps partly due to the years of hard knocks she's already survived. But Failure's candour coupled with her bluntness suggests that despite everything, she's not only getting by, but thriving.

"I am an eternal optimist, which is so funny," says Failure, commenting on some of the dark themes on *Fino + Bleed*. "I am forever an optimist to a fault."

Guerrilla developers bananas for destruction

gamereview

Red Faction Guerrilla

Published by THQ
Developed by Volition Inc.
Now Available on Xbox 360

IAN PHILLIPCHUK
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Throw *Red Faction Guerrilla*, the latest iteration of the *Red Faction* series from makers Volition Incorporated, into a console, and there's an unmistakable sense that the game was created solely to give civil engineers unbearably huge hard-ons. Besides giving a whole faculty of the university the ability to hold up a wet towel with no hands, there isn't much more to *Red Faction Guerrilla* besides being an unpolished *Grand Theft Auto* clone. A poorly developed storyline highlights unimaginative weapons, shoddy controls, and a lack of motivation to do anything but murder civilians with a sledgehammer while destroying everything else in sight.

Gamers take control of Alec Mason, demolition specialist and recent emigrant to the red planet. Once arriving on the surface of Mars, you meet his soon-to-be-killed-for-motivation brother, Daniel. At least they give you the chance to save him the trouble and smack in the back of Alec's skull with a sledgehammer.

Unfortunately for the player, the developers flip out when you do, failing you and forcing you to watch as little Dan gets mowed down just to get the protagonist to stop being an unmotivated jerk and follow the railroad tracks of the story. An eviction and a firefight later, and you're shoved straight-out into the storyline. It feels less like a proper introduction and more like the developers locked you into an endless hallway of storyline failings.

Red Faction wears out its welcome at about the three-hour mark, when rampant destruction gets old.

Fortunately for Volition, *Red Faction* was never about the story. Using their proprietary Geomod 2.0 engine, players are allowed to destroy any structure their hearts desire. Buildings explode with convincing and satisfying fashion, fragmenting and collapsing to piles of rubble. The developers clearly realize that the ability to blow up, smash, or detonate anything in sight is the only selling point of the franchise, as there are missions that consist of nothing but blowing shit up. For the first few hours, systematically taking apart a two-room

condo with a sledgehammer is all well and good, but eventually the game's flaws become painfully obvious.

Red Faction wears out its welcome at about the three-hour mark, when rampant destruction gets old. The game bills itself as a first-person shooter, but overly futuristic weapons are just bullet one on the list of how it fails at its own genre. It becomes hard to take an overlarge weapon seriously when it causes no conceivable destruction to the environment and looks like it's firing air soft rounds. The targeting scheme seems to have been copied wholesale from *Grand Theft Auto*, meaning that it's not even as good as FPS's on the Nintendo 64 in that respect.

And that's not the only thing aped from *GTA*. Gamers drive around the surface of Mars avoiding the fuzz, doing missions for random people with no conceivable motivation. Unfortunately for Volition, they didn't manage to duplicate any of the atmosphere, personality, or quality that made *GTA* such a blast.

Despite all of its flaws, *Red Faction Guerrilla* is a game that allows you to break a random person's face, and then bring his house around his ears, all with the same sledgehammer. The experience is novel for a while, and certainly offers something different than other games, but don't expect it to hold your interest for very long.



Four months at the movies: the best \$11.50 we spent this summer



Evan Mudryk
(500) Days of Summer

"This is a story of boy-meets-girl, but you should know up front, this is not a love story," warns the heard-but-never-seen narrator. The film is told from the perspective of Tom (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) as he remembers, out of order, his relationship with "the one," Summer Finn (Zooey Deschanel). But, far from being able to shape the Matrix, she's ultimately not interested in anything too serious, and avoids branding them boyfriend and girlfriend, insisting that they are simply "friends."

The script is apparently more therapy than it is screenplay, and Marc Webb — primarily a music video

A&E
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Commentary

director — demonstrates remarkable style and vision, such as when, in sequence, he juxtaposes Tom's expectations against reality, for an effect that is both sad and terribly true.

Besides being one of the most refreshing movies this summer, it's also hysterically funny and references two of my favourite films: *Star Wars* and *The Graduate*. On top of that, it features a highlight-reel worthy scene wherein Tom dances to Hall & Oates' "You Make My Dreams."

If this summer's *Star Trek* was not your father's *Star Trek*, then *(500) Days of Summer* is definitely not your mother's romantic comedy, but indeed a complete redefinition of the term.

James Leask
Up

I wasn't sold on *Up* when I saw the first trailer. A senior citizen attaches balloons to his house to turn it into a flying machine? Honestly, I wasn't sure that was enough to carry a feature length movie. But, as has generally been the case, it turns out I probably should have trusted the filmmakers at Pixar. *Up* was easily the best movie I saw all summer.

Even compared to the studio's other successes, the film is gorgeous. The dazzling effects of light shining through hundreds of balloons and the peeks through the clouds at the ground below are breathtaking. From Carl's (Ed Asner) blocky body to Russell's (Jordan Nagai) roundness, the characters' shapes all perfectly accentuate their personalities. Pixar is known for their attention to visual detail, and *Up* is no exception.

It's not enough that a movie look great, though. The summer blockbuster season is riddled with spectacular-looking movies that you barely remember once you've left the theatre. *Transformers*? *Funny People*? They seem like distant memories now. *Up*, however, only grows in my mind.

The movie is a vivid look at regret, loss, and ultimately hopeful optimism told through the stories of Carl and Russell. A wordless montage

of Carl's life with his late wife is, simply put, the most beautiful and heartbreaking bit of filmmaking I've seen all year. Purely visual storytelling is hard to do well, but Pixar makes it look easy. It's hard to believe any other studio could have made this film and gotten it so right.

Alexis Hillier
Moon

More than any other movie this summer, *Moon* stayed with me long after I left the theatre. Charismatic character actor Sam Rockwell stars in this smart, eerie sci-fi film about an astronaut working on the dark side of the moon.

Our hero (also named Sam) has just two weeks left on a mining mission and is anxious to return to his wife and young daughter back on Earth. Without spoiling the best turns in the plot, an accident jeopardizes Sam's return home and forces him to confront the possibility that his existence is not what it seems.

In a genre so often crowded by CGI and special effects, *Moon* is refreshing in the simplicity of its execution. Rockwell carries what is essentially a one-man show, and director Duncan Jones creates an appropriately claustrophobic atmosphere — we can almost feel Sam's mounting paranoia ricochet off the walls of his lunar capsule.

As the film unfolds, we're challenged to solve the mysteries of Sam's situation, and to evaluate our own views on bioengineering and identity. But *Moon*'s portrait of a man struggling to understand his role in events much greater than himself is more than puzzling. It's also a deeply troubling and ultimately moving piece of cinema.

Stephen Cook
G.I. Joe: Rise of the Cobra

Ignorance is bliss. Yet ignorance is a condition that may be cured with knowledge whilst its counterpart, stupidity, denotes a distinct inability to learn. Thus, if ignorance equals bliss, and ignorance is lesser than stupidity, then stupidity equals a higher form of bliss.

By employing this logic, perhaps you'll understand why I've nominated the wonderfully idiotic *G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra* as the best film of the summer. It's like the lobotomized three-legged hop-sotch puppy you can't help but love. A convoluted plot somehow involving a medieval insult on a Scottish clan? Check. Pausing during a chase scene to have a female villain compliment another woman's shoes in a dazzling display of chauvinistic degradation? Check. Brendan Fraser? Check. It doesn't get much better than this.

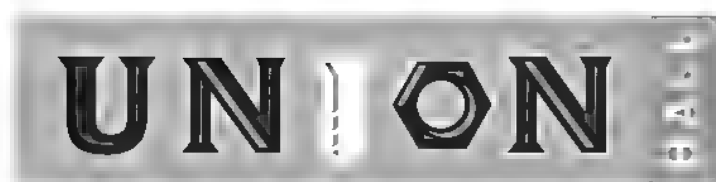
G.I. Joe is light, fun action, and unlike movies such as *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* or *Terminator: Salvation*, it never attempts to be more than the sum of its parts.

Where there is no attempt, there is no failure — perfection through mediocrity. Unfortunately, some will be so blinded by critic-fueled prejudice that they will be unable to see *G.I. Joe*'s true beauty.

While my theatre-going partner sank further and further into her seat, I only cheered louder for what I increasingly realized was a cinematic masterpiece.



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Scottish electronica musician develops first “humanthesizer”



Calvin Harris’ “Humanthesizer”

SARAH STEAD
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The human body’s connection to making music is both intimate and indispensable. Singing or playing a woodwind instrument requires the lips, the tongue, and the lungs; drumming employs the hands, arms, and feet; the fingers, meanwhile, strum and pluck notes and chords out of stringed instruments.

But with the addition of computers, electronic sampling, and mixing equipment to the musical sphere, it seems that little more than your fingertips or Auto-Tune software are needed to create songs. Just ask T-Pain.

However, Scottish electronica musician Calvin Harris, along with a team of inventive students from London, England’s Royal College of Art, found a more exciting and sexy way to produce electronic music using not only their fingertips, but their entire bodies.

The Human Synthesizer — or “Humanthesizer” as Harris has dubbed it — came about as a result of a close collaboration with several master’s students in the Industrial Design Engineering program at RCA. Students Matt Johnson, Isabel Lizardi, Bibi Nelson, and Becky Pilditch developed a special skin-safe ink called “Bare Conductive,” which, when painted onto the skin, allows the body to act like a wire and conduct electricity without causing an electric shock.

The product’s website describes Bare Conductive as an “ink that is applied directly onto the skin allowing the creation of custom electronic circuitry ... [and allows] users to interact with electronics through gesture, movement, and touch. Bare can be applied with a brush, stamp, or spray

and is non-toxic and temporary. Application areas include dance, music, computer interfaces, communication, and medical devices.”

And what better way to test Bare Conductive’s applications than to paint it onto 15 beautiful girls donning bikinis and turn them into a human synthesizer?

So Calvin Harris did just that. A YouTube video appeared online in mid-August, showing the Humanthesizer in use to recreate the lead track from Harris’ album of the same name, *Ready for the Weekend*.

With a combination of 34 floor pads coated in Bare Conductive, the models (who were coated in the ink on their palms, stomachs, and soles of their feet), and some custom software and electronics from Matt Johnson (who also aided in developing Bare), Harris was able to choreograph seven of the models, mostly in pairs of two, to dance on the floor pads and slap each other’s hands in time to his song. Every time the girls touched, they completed an electronic current attached to a computer, which in turn produced drum, bass, and piano sounds. Harris then literally “played” eight of the other girls like a keyboard by touching their palms.

Over the past three weeks, numerous iterations of the online video have garnered over 100,000 hits. The YouTube account for UltraRecords, where the video was first posted, also announced that Harris will be taking the Humanthesizer with him on his upcoming European tour.

Sure, it may have been a publicity stunt to support his new record, but Harris and the students at RCA have definitely created something worthy of recognition here. The video truly needs to be seen for this feat of musical inventiveness and innovation to be appreciated.

In a time when the computers are increasingly relied on to produce much of the music that makes it to the radio, it’s refreshing to see a musician bringing the creation of music back to where it began — with the body.



To watch the YouTube video of Calvin Harris’ Humanthesizer in action, go to www.thegatewayonline.ca/humansynth



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2. Payments will be applied directly to student accounts which can be viewed on Bear Tracks.
3. Awards will be applied towards tuition and fees prior to the deadline for paying tuition and fees; any remaining amount will be refunded. All awards accepted in the Fall Term will be divided equally—half in the Fall Term and half in the Winter Term. All awards accepted in the Winter Term will be paid out in a single payment in the Winter Term.

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Judge adds *Office Space* quirks to *Extract*



filmreview

Extract

Directed by Mike Judge
Starring Jason Bateman, Mila Kunis,
Kristen Wiig, and Ben Affleck
Now Playing

AARON YEO
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Many a review will start with “I walked into such and such place with such and such expectations” or something to that effect, but the best part of *Extract* is how you feel when you leave the theatre: happy. There’s nothing bad to say about it.

There aren’t any big plot holes to make you mad, no unresolved issues, no utterly confusing scenes leaving you screaming “why?” — just a modest portion of goodness that makes you smile. It’s nothing spectacular, but so humble and well-rounded that it’s nearly impossible to hate.

Although the usage of the word “nice” is looked down upon in almost every level of writing above fourth grade, it just may be the best word to describe the film.

In *Extract*, director Mike Judge — creator of the cult-classic *Office Space* — takes a simple setting and throws it into chaos. While the plot is a little over-the-top at times, it was written well enough that it doesn’t confuse the audience.

The film’s protagonist, Joel (Jason Bateman), enthusiastically runs an extract company and factory, and things are going so well that a big king corporation plans to buy the company and give him a lucrative early retirement.

However, a few mishaps caused by the much less passionate factory employees work, or lack thereof, leaves employee Step (Clifton Collins, Jr.) with only half of his manliness dangling.

The incident is about to pass, until Cindy (Mila Kunis) arrives in the story, hoping to continue her con-artist ways. Seducing nearly every male within 20 feet of her, she uses her charm on Joel and Step in the hopes of running off with a rather large sum of lawsuit money in light of the manliness-threatening accident.

In the meantime, drugs, gigolos, and teddy bears in tutus get mixed up in the story. Clearly, a lot goes on, making it a little complex, but the audience never feels lost or out of place.

There’s also a huge mix of styles in *Extract*. You get a little bit of *Desperate Housewives* drama, some loud awkward and obnoxious Apatow humor, and of course, a nice serving of dry humour reminiscent of *Office Space*. In fact, Bateman’s muttering seems almost a tribute to everyone’s favourite character from *Office Space*, Milton.

I arrived at the theatre with almost no idea what *Extract* was about. The

trailers were not produced by Captain Obvious — he was busy with *The Final Destination* — but the characters couldn’t have been more perfect.

The casting was amazingly spot-on. Jason Bateman plays your stereotypical 30-something workaholic, married to Suzie, a rather aloof suburban lady (Kristen Wiig). The protagonist’s devil-on-the-shoulder friend, Dean (Ben Affleck), works as a server of alcohol and other intoxicants. His character shines with some of the most memorable lines from the film, surely to be repeated among groups of friends with a penchant for inside jokes.

The minor characters are even more lovable. Nathan (David Koechner) employs his signature mesmerizing mouth movements as the dull neighbor who never knows when to shut up. Joe (Gene Simmons) rocks out, playing a loud lawyer who advertises himself on television like Billy Mays advertised Oxiclean. And then there’s Brad (Dustin Milligan), the dimwitted man-whore whose lines are hilariously moronic interjections of comic relief.

While providing some good clean laughs along with side-splitting bouts of profanity and drug abuse, don’t expect *Extract* to be the next *Hangover*. This film is in no position to win movie of the year, or any award for that matter, but it’s a nice and humble watch, something that’s becoming increasingly rare in this day and age.

FLOP CULTURE

In some board room in the past few weeks, the following situation must have transpired: sitting with clasped hands, a furrowed brow and the rapt attention of a bunch of studio lackeys, the head of Fox’s creative department said to waiting ears, “You know what America loves right now? Fat people! *More to Love*, *The Biggest Loser*, *The Fat Chelator* — the public wants to believe that the obese live, act and have the capacity to love. But the idea mill has run dry. Where do we go from here? How do we indulge in the country’s desires while still being fresh and original?”

Suddenly, the board room’s doors flew open and sliding in on his knees is Martin Lawrence encased in what appears to be a gelatinous plop, wearing a flower-print dress. “Wnooooo, on lordy, Big Momma’s come to save the day, child!” yells Lawrence in an exaggerated Southern accent, as everyone in the room tossed up their papers in celebration and rejoiced with hugs and high-fives.

Yes, Lawrence’s lumpy matriarch will be back for thirds after Fox hired a screenwriter this week to write a second sequel for the *Big Momma’s House* franchise. While details are being kept under wraps, the script reportedly took approximately eight gruelling minutes to complete and will likely include at least one scene with Big Momma in lingerie, several flatulence

jokes, a part where Big Momma beats a bunch of youths at a sport, and many, many of Martin Lawrence’s incredulous reaction shots. But unlike all the aforementioned TV shows, Big Momma narrows back to a golden era where obese people were paraded around on screen for our amusement — not like now, where audiences watch them purely to see the determination of the human spirit and congratulate them for being the heroes they are.

JOHN KMECH

Flop Culture is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits shake their literary fists at ridiculous events or celebrities deserving of an inky bitch-slap.

Steampunk animation fuels endearing kids' flick



filmreview

9

Written by Pamela Petler and Shane Acker

Directed by Shane Acker

Starring Elijah Wood, Jennifer Connolly, and Christopher Plummer
Opening September 9

DEMMI CONNOLLY
Arts & Entertainment Staff

9 is a cute movie that walks the line between appealing to an audience of innocent children and power-hungry

adults, while still delivering a heartfelt message. It's complete with adorable animation — even the monsters can be a little endearing — as well as subject matter about the corruption of power.

From the beginning of 9, it's easy to tell who the good guys and bad guys are. 9 (voiced by Elijah Wood) comes to life to find the world looking like Ground Zero. He has no idea how he got there or where he came from, and the only person who could have given him an answer (the scientist, voiced by Alan Oppenheimer) lies lifeless on the floor. The window of the room flutters open enough to draw 9 towards it, where he sees a sign of life in the distance, and heads straight for it.

9 is a cute movie that walks the line between appealing to an audience of innocent children and power-hungry adults, while still delivering a heartfelt message.

Once 9 meets new life forms on Earth, his journey begins and the audience can sit back and watch the exciting journey that ensues. The main characters are tiny life forms living in a once-modern world, making it seem as if they inhabit an old giant's home. The movie contains everything from a heroic journey to save friends, to the destruction of monsters, a gigantic explosion or two, simple mistakes that lead to great disaster, and a twist just in time to continue the story.

The moral of the story is laid out blatantly when 9 is told the reason for the world's destructed state. A montage of the story looks much like a war documentary.

An overtly political message can be

seen in the hierarchy developed between the characters in the movie, as well as with the background story of the characters. The message put forth heavier issues than one would expect to find in a children's movie.

The animation in the movie is also extremely well done. The detail of the characters and the scenery make 9 worth watching even with the sound off. Thread turns into climbing ropes, a tiny bookshelf is an enormous library, and a coaster is turned into an elevator of sorts.

Big explosions, even when they're only animated, add excitement. Complete with a love story, touching moments, and dinosaur-like monsters, 9 is worth a watch.

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THE GATEWAY

BEARS FOOTBALL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4



25



24

SCORE BY QUARTER

Alberta	7	17	0	0	24
UBC	0	6	5	14	25

HEAD-TO-HEAD

	AB	UBC
First Downs	22	33
Rushing Yards	147	272
Passing Yards	186	201
Total Offence	333	473
Kickoff Return Yds.	46	169
Interceptions	1	0
Sacks	1	0
Penalties-Yards	14-132	12-120
Possession Time	27:39	32:21
Field Goals	1/2	3/4



ALBERTA STATS

Rushing	Carries	Yards	TD
JOZYY, Tendency	23	132	1
WOLLIN, Jeff	4	14	1

Passing	Att-Cmp-Int	TD
ARMSTRONG, Quade	22-14-0	1
MARCHAND, Julian	3-1-0	0

Receiving	No.	Yards	Long
COURT, David	4	53	16
VALLEAU, Jeff	4	52	28



UBC STATS

Rushing	Carries	Yards	TD
BOYD, Dave	32	231	1
GREENE, Billy	7	55	1

Passing	Att-Cmp-Int	TD
GREENE, Billy	27-14-1	0

Receiving	No.	Yards	Long
BETTS, Spencer	5	48	17
GRIEVE, Jordan	2	63	33



SAM BROOKS

Gridiron Bears stunned by UBC

After racing out to a 24–3 lead, the Bears couldn’t stop RB Dave Boyd in the second half

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

Like a phoenix rising from the ashes, the UBC Thunderbirds overcame a 21-point deficit to stun the Golden Bears football team on Friday night. In the Green and Gold’s season opener at Foote Field the T-Birds managed to escape with a 25–24 come-from-behind win.

In a game that truly was a tale of two very different halves, the Bears came out looking like a well-oiled offensive machine in the first half as veteran quarterback Quade Armstrong got Alberta out to a 24–6 lead heading into the locker room at halftime.

With the start of the second half came the start of the Dave Boyd show, as the UBC running back dominated the Bears defence to the tune of 221 yards on the ground in the game, with 177 of those yards coming in the second half alone. The Thunderbirds’ offensive line had their way with the Bears defence, allowing Boyd to run all over the Green and Gold in the final two quarters.

After a safety and a field goal for the Thunderbirds, Boyd really got the comeback in full swing as he finally punched the ball into the Bears’ endzone with a little over five minutes left, making it 24–18.

With 3:20 left on the clock, the T-Birds got the ball as the Bears offence continued to sputter. Starting on their own five, in need of a major

goal attempt for the win, but O’Neill missed wide left, allowing the T-Birds to hang on for the remarkable win.

UBC head coach Ted Goveia’s crew showed no quit despite the large deficit, especially his offensive line who gave Boyd terrific running lanes.

“They’re big and they’re playing with a lot of passion and emotion,

second half for the T-Birds as everyone in the stadium, including Bears head coach Jerry Friesen, knew what the T-Birds were going to do offensively.

“We knew what they were doing, and it was a man-to-man [situation] and they out handled us,” explained Friesen.

Friesen’s defence was fatigued in the second half, as the offence struggled to string together a long drive after Armstrong missed time in the third quarter with an injury sustained on the opening drive of the second half.

“It’s really tough when your offence doesn’t get many opportunities. The defence was on the field way too long and the offence couldn’t start anything,” remarked Friesen.

Alberta had their chances to make plays defensively, but Boyd was simply too much for the Bears as they dropped to 0–1.

“It’s a matter of making sure we go out and we’ve got to be fundamentally sound,” Friesen remarked. “When we take a look at the tape, I suspect I will be talking about a lot of missed tackles.”

“It’s a matter of making sure we go out and we’ve got to be fundametrnally sound. When we take a look at the tape I suspect I will be talking about a lot of missed tackles.”

JERRY FRIESEN
HEAD COACH BEARS FOOTBALL

score to take the lead, UBC drove 105 yards for the major — including 80 yards on the ground from Boyd — and kicker Billy Pavlopoulos made the convert putting the Thunderbirds up 25–24.

After moving the ball into UBC territory, the Bears managed to set up a 48-yard Hugh O’Neill field

and it’s funny because we called a couple pass plays and they were the first ones to run off the bench and say ‘we need to run the ball’, and I like hearing that because when they’re telling me that, it means they think they can get it done, and they did,” Goveia said.

It was a predictable attack in the

Bears to take on Canucks rookies

Cody Hodgson headlines Vancouver's rookies who are looking to impress NHL eyes at camp

EVAN DAUM
Sports Editor

With the beginning of September comes hockey training camp and in turn, the annual Bears-Oilers Rookie game. However, before that annual tilt hits the ice at Clare Drake, the Golden Bears will square off against a new set of NHL prospects. For the first time in the program's history, the Bears will suit up against the Vancouver Canucks' rookies on Wednesday night.

As part of the Oilers and Canucks' rookie camps, Alberta will play both squads of first-year players in a three-team tournament. The Bears, who opened training camp last week, are excited to add another game against a skilled opponent to their preseason schedule as they prepare to defend their Canada West title.

"To add this one and keep the Oilers Rookie game is just a great thing for our program," head coach Eric Thurston exclaimed.

"It throws you right into the fire right from the start to see who can play, just because there is good speed with the opposition. There's a great sort of individual skill level."

The game will be Alberta's first opportunity to see several new recruits in action. New on the Bears' blueline will be three key recruits — Colin Joe, Ian Barteaux, and Reade Wolansky, who give the team some much-needed depth on the back-end, and should contribute to of one of the best defensive units across the country. The new defensive additions have yet to don the Green and Gold in a game, but have already paid dividends by raising the level of intensity at training camp.

"If I were to compare it from last year and the other years, our tempo has been excellent right from the start. I think the new guys have come in and done a very good job of jumping the level up and putting a little bit of pressure on guys to bring their level up," Thurston pointed out.

"I really like the skill level of our back-end and I think that has excited our forwards a little bit — they're getting pucks in full stride and they're doing a good job of moving pucks tape to tape."

Another key recruit to watch will be new netminder Travis Yonkman, who comes to the Bears after an impressive four-year career with the Swift Current Broncos of the WHL. Yonkman and returning goalie Real Cyr will each get a game against the rookies, but who will start Wednesday against the Canucks remains a question mark at this point.

"I'm watching them at practice, seeing and discussing it with the coaches, but I will let those guys know. I still haven't quite made up my mind, I am still flopping back and forth," Thurston explained.

Vancouver's rookies are headlined

"To add this one and keep the Oilers Rookie game is just a great thing for our program"

ERIC THURSTON
HEAD COACH BEARS HOCKEY

by 2009 CHL Player of the Year Cody Hodgson, who is likely to get a chance with the big club this season. Hodgson, who was selected 10th overall by the Canucks in the 2008 NHL Entry Draft was outstanding last season for the Brampton Battalion tallying 92 points, and was also part of Canada's World Junior Team where he helped Canada claim their fifth-straight gold medal.

Alberta brings their own point-getter to the table in the form of Ian McDonald, who notched 92 points back in 2005/06 while with the Tri-City Americans of the WHL.

McDonald and the rest of the Bears hit the ice at Clare Drake Arena Wednesday night to take on Hodgson and his fellow Canucks, with puck drop at 7 p.m.



PETEYEE

NET VISION Newcomer Michael MacAngus will be one of the new faces in uniform as the Bears take on the Canucks.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

Ian Barteaux



Barteaux spent three full seasons in the WHL with the Kootenay Ice and is coming off a career year offensively after he potted ten goals to go along with 29 assists. He will be a major part of the Bears revamped defence this season.

Cody Hodgson



Hodgson is a highly touted prospect out of the OHL where he notched 92 points last season with the Brampton Battalion. Hodgson was also a member of Team Canada's world junior team last season in Ottawa where the Red and White captured their fifth-straight gold.

Sergei Shirokov

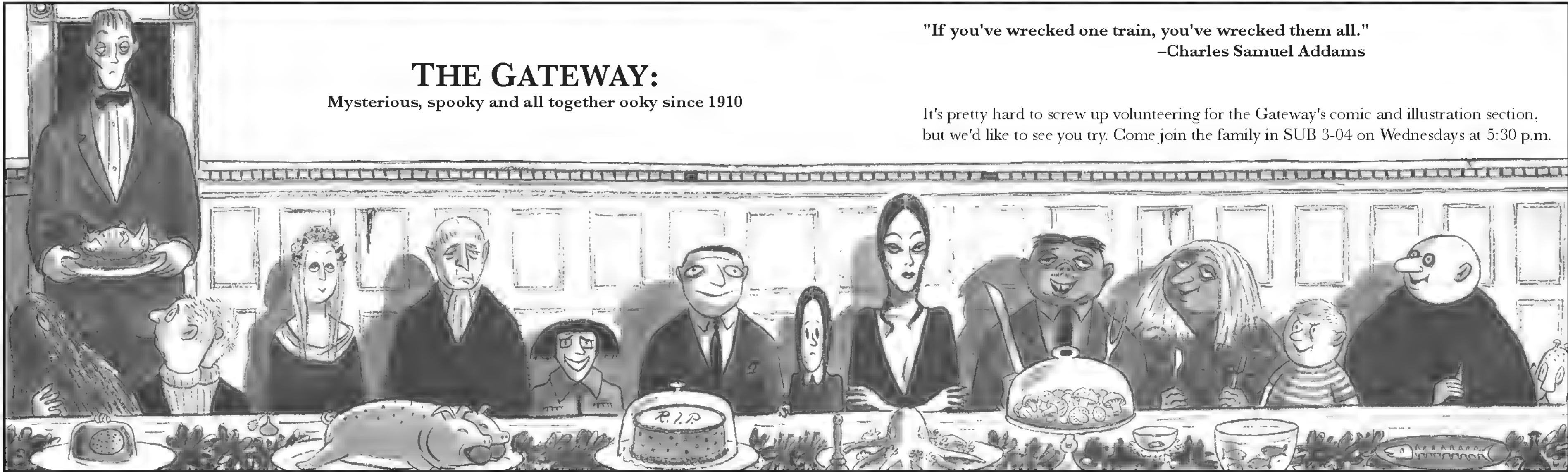


Selected in the sixth round of the 2006 draft, Shirokov has honed his skills for the past five seasons in Russia with his hometown team CSKA Moscow of the KHL. Shirokov had a career year last season with 41 points including 17 goals.

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THIS WEEK'S SPORTS FLOP



After being dealt a 19-8 loss by the Boise State Broncos, Oregon's LeGarrette Blount proceeded to sucker punch Boise's Byron Hout. Now we're all for intensity, but leave your Blount impressions at home when you come to our sports meetings every Thursday at 4 p.m.

GATEWAY SPORTS:

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WIKIMEDIA

NEW PRESCRIPTION Rexall Place, the second oldest building in the NHL, has become outdated in an era of arena upgrades.

New arena needs municipal planning more than tax dollars

CIARAN
O'FLYNNSports
Commentary

It can be assumed that during the 2003/04 season when Daryl Katz put his Rexall brand on the arena that houses the Edmonton Oilers, he quickly adopted a personal interest in the welfare of the team. After all, what kind of business mogul would want his name — or in this case, his company's name — to be associated with anything but success? Needless to say, Katz had no desire to be associated with a losing product.

Fast-forward six seasons and the landscape has changed. Katz is no longer a hopeful bystander, but is instead the empowered sole owner of the hockey team he has invested so much time and money into, which is why it makes perfect sense for him to build on his investment. Whether the best way for him to do that is to build a massive arena complex is for him to decide — unless, of course, he's counting on mass amounts of public funding to carry his project.

However, to this point, it seems as

though he's willing to share the load. The most recent idea is to fund the arena through a casino that would be part of the complex, and would take a lot of the heat off of taxpayers, as opposed to tearing money from their clenched fists. Additionally, the Katz Group would foot a large yet-to-be-determined portion of the bill to go along with what City Council may or may not agree to spend on a down payment.

This, of course, sparks the debate as to whether or not any money should be spent by the city to support the project. If the city's best interests are being kept in mind, though, the debate should be short-lived and end in favour of at least some support from council.

Those who are involved in the arts community are absolutely right in saying that in the past, they haven't received comparable support from the City — that has, however, recently changed, most noticeably with the new art gallery directly next to City Hall. To withhold support from the hockey team just to make a point of showing a change in priorities would be counterproductive. City Council needs to look at more than just the monetary cost, but also the quality of life for those who rely on the area around the new arena for daily living.

History has shown that when low-

income individuals are in the way of a very enticing development, they are generally forced out long before the project could be jeopardized. Where they would end up is for them to decide, but they would certainly be in tough to maintain their quality of life if they were to be uprooted. However, if the City was to commit to supporting a new complex, they would be in a position of power over how the operation was run, considering that the City of Edmonton would have their name on the deed. This would allow Mayor Stephen Mandel and his colleagues to ensure the fair treatment of those who are left vulnerable by the project (which is not to say that Katz would be heartless in this hypothetical).

Daryl Katz has shown his philanthropic qualities around the city as much as anybody, including his multi-million dollar donation to the U of A's Law and Pharmacy faculties. But this is just it: the City is soon to be approached by a lifelong Edmontonian who is hoping to revitalize the city's core, and they have an obligation not to bleed taxpayers money, but to instead be accountable to the population by maintaining some control over the new arena construction, while at the same time giving us a chance to watch our favourite team in a fancy new building.

Coyotes saga is tired and pathetic

EVAN
DAUMSports
Commentary

In what's become a sad and tired story for Canadian hockey fans, Jim Balsillie and the NHL continue to fight for control of the Phoenix Coyotes in an Arizona bankruptcy court. Balsillie is a modern day Robin Hood for Canadian hockey fans — attempting to steal the franchise and move it back to the true north strong and free. Balsillie has the support of the Canadian hockey fan, but has absolutely no support from either the NHL or any of its owners, making a move to Hamilton, Ontario far from easy.

The way in which Balsillie has

handled his entire quest for an NHL hockey team — dating back to when he attempted to buy the Nashville Predators — has been the wrong way to do business with a professional sports league. It's easy to play hardball with a partner who isn't an equal, but when Balsillie tries to single-handedly take on the NHL, he's forgetting that he's also taking on more than two-dozen fellow millionaires (and billionaires, for that matter) who won't easily shy away from a battle.

He's fighting a fight that he'll never win. Is Balsillie the right man to lead an NHL franchise as an owner? Absolutely. Is he the right man to get his hands on an NHL team? No — and there is a difference between the two.

You can't push people around to get into what amounts to a super-exclusive club; you have to pay your dues. Balsillie has shown he's either misguided in how to secure a team,

or really believes that he's bigger than the entire league. As much as Gary Bettman wants to keep teams in markets where hockey is barely on the radar, I really question if even he would've taken such a hardline stance against moving a team out of the sun-belt if Balsillie would've conducted his business in a less hostile manner — but then again, I might be giving the Commish far too much credit.

The bizarre part of this story is that, in the end, Jim Balsillie won't get the Phoenix Coyotes and move them to Hamilton, while Gary "I am betting my job on this franchise" Bettman will be out of a job in short turn. Phoenix is as good of a place for a hockey team as Hudson Bay is for a swim in January. So in the end, it would only make sense for this to just be another case of "two wrongs never making a right," as both men dig in their heels and true hockey fans suffer.

sportssHORTS

Compiled by Evan Daum

Connauton continuing his hockey journey

JOHN KEOHANE
Sports Writer

Competitive sports more often than not can be a crapshoot, where promising young athletes slip through the cracks of the evaluation process, doomed either by lack of exposure or late physical development. This phenomenon is remarkably prevalent in Canadian minor hockey, due in part to the premature drafting practices of major junior leagues nationwide, and in part due to the inherently physical nature of the game — an aspect of minor hockey that clearly favours athletes who mature physically at a young age.

Kevin Connauton, a 19-year-old defenceman for the Western Hockey League's (WHL) Vancouver Giants and member of the Canucks rookie squad that will take on the U of A Golden Bears this Wednesday, has experienced the pitfalls of the minor hockey system first-hand. The Edmonton native and St. Francis Xavier High School graduate has followed a circuitous route in his efforts to gain big-league buzz, and his cross-continental endeavours eventually earned him the 83rd overall spot in the 2009 NHL Entry Draft and an opportunity to fulfill his lifelong ambition of playing in the most well-known professional hockey league in the world.

Connauton had been gearing up for his sophomore season with the Western Michigan University Broncos of the NCAA, participating in team workouts and trying to temper his

expectations before this year's entry draft back in June.

"I was expecting to maybe go later in the day, so to see my name in the third round was just incredible," said Connauton.

However, the speedy defenceman seems to appreciate the gravity of the opportunity he's been afforded.

"It's kind of surreal, really, because you just have to refocus and understand that the work has only just begun. Being drafted opens the door a crack, and it's up to me to throw it open by working hard and being totally dedicated to hockey."

"Being drafted opens the door a crack, and it's up to me to throw it open by working hard and being totally dedicated to hockey."

KEVIN CONNAUTON
VANCOUVER GIANTS DEFENCEMAN

Connauton's perspective is one gained through disappointment: he was passed over in the WHL Entry Draft, thanks in part to a broken arm that shortened his season; he faced difficult losses in both the AJHL playoffs and CCHA regionals; and went undrafted in his first year of NHL eligibility.

In fact, Connauton, who recorded 45 points in his rookie season with the Spruce Grove Saints of the Alberta Junior Hockey League (AJHL), wasn't



SUPPLIED

CATCHING KEVIN Connauton gained attention while playing at Western Michigan.

even on the radar for most major college programs during the 2007 season, but he caught the eye of the Western Michigan coaching staff at the annual AJHL talent showcase. Kevin's unique blend of offensive flair and size resonated with WMU assistant coach Mark Fackler, and Connauton was offered a roster spot for the 2009/10 season.

Connauton's time to shine came early after a Western Michigan defenceman failed to qualify academically for the 2008/09 campaign, and thus was thrust into college limelight a year earlier than expected. He responded admirably, recording 18 points during the regular season while figuring prominently on the back end for the Broncos. Connauton's success continued in the playoffs, netting three goals including the double-

overtime series winner in Western's first-round win.

"College was awesome: the hockey, the school, everything," Connauton said, adding "I'm incredibly grateful to WMU for the opportunities they afforded me, both on and off the ice."

Now Kevin is looking forward to his first season of major junior with the Giants of the WHL, hoping to make a smooth transition as he continues a journey that has taken him to Minnesota (one semester at heralded Shattuck St. Mary's High), Spruce Grove, Michigan, and finally, Vancouver.

"I love playing hockey, and everything associated with playing hockey," Connauton ruminated when asked about the upcoming season, "so hopefully I can just continue to work hard, and everything will fall into place. At least that's the plan."

Dinos fall in Saskatoon

It didn't take long for the first overtime game of the season in Canada West football action as the third-ranked Calgary Dinos and fourth-ranked Saskatchewan Huskies battled at Griffiths Stadium in Saskatoon over the weekend. Calgary had a chance to win the game in the dying seconds with a 47-yard field goal attempt which placekicker Aaron Ifield nailed, but it was called back on a time-count violation forcing him to simply punt the ball away and take the game into overtime.

Both teams traded majorscorestoopen the extra time, and after Saskatchewan scored their second touchdown of the frame, Calgary managed the same — instead of going for a single point, however, head coach Blake Nill elected to go for the win with a two-point convert attempt instead. That attempt failed and Saskatchewan secured the win to open the season with a dramatic victory.

Horwood Toast and Roast

The Golden Bears Basketball Foundation and University of Alberta Athletics Department announced last week that they will be honouring longtime Bears Basketball coach Don Horwood on September 18. Horwood, who led Alberta on the hardwood for 26 years, retired at the conclusion of last season after guiding the Bears to a 15-11 record.

The event will be used as a fundraiser for the Golden Bears Basketball Foundation to help fund the Bears basketball program.

For more information, contact Jocelyne Lambert at 780-492-3893.





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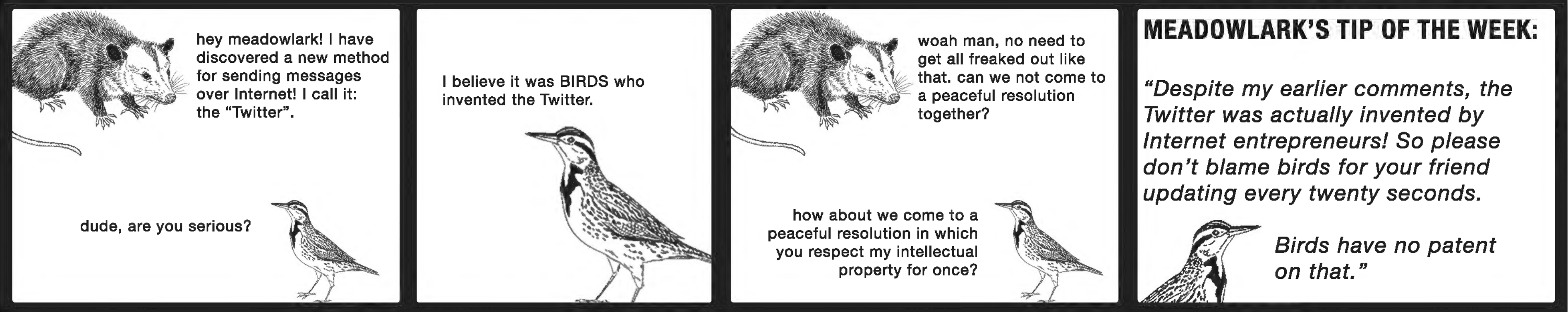
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STADIUM LOVE Toronto-based Metric cranks out the tunes in front of a rambunctious crowd of over 11,000 September 5, 2009 at the Northlands during the first annual Sonic Boom Festival.

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Weekend Personal Care & Home Support required for female quad & family. A.m. & p.m. shifts, flexible hours, starts \$15/hr. Located NE Edmonton, close to transit. Female, non-smoker preferred. Contact Bev (RAPS) 780-425-5450 or email jmh6@ualberta.ca

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Basketball refs wanted-paid cash clinic sept 25/26. info: www.theeboa.com or 780 988-4851

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Need childcare Thursday afternoons/evenings for elementary kids. Riverbend. Call 780-717-7498 \$10/hr

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